

THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

17 Branches To Close If 'Horrible' Library Plan Implemented

By Janet Jacobs

Sometime during the last week of March, City Librarian Ken Dowlin got a call from the mayor's office.

You need to cut an additional \$3.2 million from the San Francisco Public Library's budget, the mayor's office told Dowlin. (The library system was initially asked to cut \$1.5 million from its current budget.) And you need to do it by April 1.

The library's response was: Is this some kind of April Fool's joke? How are we supposed to cut almost \$5 million dollars (about 25 percent) from an already bare-bones library budget?

Though Dowlin and the rest of the library administration were shocked and incredulous, they nevertheless complied with the mayor's request, and in less than a week, submitted a revised budget for 1993-94.

The new "worst-case scenario" doesn't just pair library branches and reduce their hours (as the last one did—see the March and April issues of the *Voice*), but eliminates 17 of the system's 26 branch



In Praise of the Ancient Auto: Clifford Grutze's 1931 Model A Ford truck may be as old as the hills (and some of the homes on Castro near Valley Street), but he drives it five days a week, hauling supplies for his plumbing business. He also burns rubber on occasion with other vintage car collectors in the neighborhood. See this month's centerspread, pages 18-19. PHOTO BY ED BURYN

libraries.

The remaining nine branches would become "children's only" libraries, with all adult material removed and portions of the buildings closed to public access.

These children's libraries would be staffed by employees paid through funds authorized by Proposition J, the so-called Children's Amendment passed in 1991.

What the plan boils down to is: there

will be no branch service for adults. Adults will use the Main Library only, which will be accessible only five days a

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Irish Eyes Are Smiling As Michael McCarthy Turns 100

By John C. Harrison

"He's coming," somebody calls out. "Shhhhh!"

The 160 guests in the banquet room at the United Irish Cultural Center on 45th Avenue drop their voices and look expectantly toward the doorway. A few moments later, on the arm of his daughter, Marge Ford, guest of honor and long-time Noe Valley resident Michael Joseph McCarthy—ex-Muni conductor, tenor extraordinaire, and centenarian-to-be—makes his entrance.

The crowd erupts with cries of "Happy Birthday, Mike!" as the eldest McCarthy, looking momentarily overwhelmed, takes a moment to gather it all in. Marge had led him to believe they were simply going out for dinner.

This 100th birthday party has come as a total surprise, and for a moment Mike is surrounded by enough McCarthys to populate Montana. They have traveled from all over California, from across the U.S., and as far away as Britain to celebrate with their eldest family member. The party, hosted by Mike's four children



Noe Valley resident Michael McCarthy, who celebrated his 100th birthday May 1, often carries peppermints to hand out on his daily stroll down 22nd Street. PHOTO BY TOM WACHS.

Report Says Cancer Rates Among School Staff Normal

By Kathy Dalle-Molle

A San Francisco Health Department study of cancer rates among the staff working at Alvarado Elementary School from 1980 to 1989 has determined that the number of actual cancer cases was not statistically different from the number that would have been expected.

The long-awaited report, dated March 8, 1993, concluded that during the 1980s Alvarado's "school employees experienced a cancer occurrence within the range expected for the general population of the Bay Area."

"The cancer experience of these employees was not abnormal, and no further investigation appears warranted at this time," wrote Health Department Director Raymond Baxter in a March 18, 1993, letter to San Francisco School Superintendent Waldemar Rojas.

Upon receiving the news, Alvarado Principal Sandra Leigh said, "It's a relief to have an official document that represents at least some serious effort to look into this problem and offer some resolution."

Leigh added that she was making her copy of the report available to Alvarado faculty and parents. At this time, she said, she had no plans to pursue the mat-

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Coffee Store to Displace Wedding Photos

Editor:

In the very near future, Starhucks Coffee will move into the storefront on the southeast corner of 24th and Noe whose windows now display my wedding photography.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have stopped by this space to look at my photos over the years. It has been a pleasure to share these images, and to watch you chuckle as you explain to your children why "he's called the groom." Your comments have been

Noe Library May Be on Latest Hit List

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week, eight hours a day.

The plan calls for eliminating all branches that are not on city-owned property, thus saving rental fees. This means that the Glen Park, Ingleside, Ocean View, Portola, and Visitacion Valley branches will be axed immediately. And because Children's Amendment funds can be used for children's services only, the Library for the Blind and the Library on Wheels (dedicated to serving the homebound senior population) are also slated to close.

Library officials then must decide which of the remaining branches to keep open as "children's only" libraries, and which to close altogether. Neel Parikh, chief of branch libraries, admits that she does not want to face this onerous task. She said she would make a decision "only at the point when the mayor tells us we have to do that."

The mayor's budget will be presented to the Board of Supervisors June 1.

Teresa Serata, Mayor Frank Jordan's finance director, explained that the mayor's office requested additional cuts from city departments because their proposed 1993-94 budgets from the first round in March absorbed only \$60 million of the city's projected \$184 million deficit.

Even though news of the revised budget was just trickling out, over one hundred residents showed up to forcefully protest the library cuts at the mayor's Town Hall meeting at McAteer High School April 7.

And patrons of the Noe Valley Sally Brunn Branch, at 451 Jersey St., expressed disbelief, frustration, and outrage that the city would almost totally decimate the library branch system.

"How can you find words to express what to say," said Bill Stanton, head librarian for the Eureka Branch, who was working at the Noe Valley Library one Saturday in April.

"It's depressing to watch what we had slip away. It can't be done without horrible consequences for the library system. They took away all the fat years ago."

Sixth-grade teacher Adria Rosen concurs. "It's horrible, it's ridiculous," she says. "We try to encourage the kids to use the library, but if there aren't enough hours, they won't use it. They are easily dissuaded. If they come and see the word 'Closed,' they won't come back."

At press time, library supporters were organizing a rally to take place on the Polk Street side of City Hall on Thursday, May 13, from noon to 1 p.m. Rally organizers were also looking for people who could help get the word out.

"Last year we collected 40,000 signatures and hundreds and hundreds of letters from business leaders, educators, parents, retirees, and working people, as well as many projects and letters from children," said Landis Wheeler, a library activist. "This year we have to demonstrate our support by getting our bodies out to the rally."

For more information, call the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library at 557-4257. □

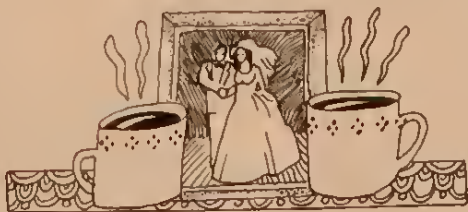
LETTERS 29¢

heartwarming.

Many thanks to the McFadden family, for allowing me to use the space, and to my co-decorators and business colleagues, Hector Sabatés of Prado Art and Frame, and Sybil Richards of Lady Sybil's Closet on Church Street.

We'll be looking for a new display space and welcome your suggestions (call 821-7369). In the meantime, I'll continue to feature some "old-favorite" photos of bridal parties and neighborhood personalities.

Irene Kane
Valley Street



Youth Passes Too Cheap

Editor:

On Saturday, April 10, at approximately 5:30 p.m., I boarded a J-Church streetcar on an inbound run. As I boarded the car at Clipper and Church streets for my downtown trip, four mid-teen youths also boarded the car. Each of these youths used a discounted Muni Youth Pass.

The youths remained on the car for one stop, then left the train at Church and 24th. While on the car, they proceeded to "tag" (write graffiti on) the interior of the streetcar. Upon departing, the youths tagged the car's exterior.

After leaving the Muni Metro station at Van Ness Avenue, I walked to the bus stop to transfer to the 49-Van Ness, bound for Aquatic Park. Along Van Ness, three teenagers boarded the bus. They made their way to the rear of the bus, at which point they began to tag the vehicle... in full view of the driver! The youths remained on the bus for only one stop, and exited after doing their "dirty work."

After spending some time and money at Fisherman's Wharf, I began my return trip home. My Powell-Mason cable car ride was wonderful. But on an outbound K-Ingleside car, I saw two youths in their late teens enter the car, again using Muni Youth Passes.

Soon after they boarded, the two youths became irate, and threatened several passengers with bodily harm. They seemed to feel that each was entitled to use two seats, and that nobody else should sit there. One youth claimed the last seat in the rear of the train, and then pulled out a marker and began tagging the vehicle's interior.

The following day, Easter Sunday, at approximately 9:30 p.m., I was walking with a partner. A northbound 24-Divisadero bus passed us at the corner of Noe and 26th streets. We saw three youths with their arms outside the rear windows of the bus, tagging the back of the moving trolley coach.

Is there a pattern here? I am fully aware that not all of our youth are committing this crime, but "tagging" is becoming more and more evident on our publicly owned transportation system. Could the Muni Youth Fast Pass be part of the problem?

By offering these passes for the ridiculously low price of \$5, the Public Utilities Commission is asking for trouble. Some teenagers find it extremely easy to enter our public transit system, destroy it, and then vanish without a trace... all within one stop.

An increase in fares is never popular, yet at a time when our city government is facing a huge deficit, it is necessary. To offer Youth Passes for \$5 is an insult to every tax-paying citizen of this city!

I am suggesting that the Youth Pass be increased to the price of an adult Muni Fast Pass. (During recent fare hikes, the discounted passes escaped hikes.) By adopting this change, the Municipal Railway would reap significant benefits.

First, design and printing costs would be reduced, since there would be no need for separate Youth Passes.

Second, elimination of the Youth Pass would bring in an additional \$7 million a year. This money could then be used to increase service on a clean, reliable, and safe system.

Third, our youths might learn to value our transit system and refrain from destroying it!

Yes, this proposal will be very unpopular with advocates for youth, who in the past have rationalized that a fare hike would cause undue hardship for some of the city's youths. But can we afford to offer this luxury in the current state of our economy?

Don Kern
Clipper Street

Fitness Trainer Brings Exercise Home

Editor:

Your April 1993 issue featured a story on two personal trainers ["Two Fitness Trainers Who Give One-on-One Workouts"]. One of those trainers is mine, Anne Windsor.

As a client of hers, I was pictured and quoted briefly in the story, but I'd like to expound on the unique reason I searched out and have stuck with a personal trainer. I wasn't a "couch potato in need of a coach," as one of the headlines implied. Rather, I wanted to change my lifestyle to include more exercise.

To do that, you need someone like Anne, who develops a program that fits well into the context of your life. She is an artist, sculpting exercise into my life by using the furniture I already have, my windows for mirrors, and my garden deck, to name a few. With very little equipment she has taught me a variety of routines. I now associate exercise with my home, whereas before, I viewed exercise as going out to play tennis or ride my bike.

Anne has also tuned in to my work schedule, energy level, and personal goals. Her sincere and rigorous long-term approach is motivating.

One-on-one training can be so much more than losing inches or making muscles safely. It can be fulfilling and fun!

Wendy Bertrand
27th Street



We're Living in an April Fool's Paradise

Editor:

Thank you for your April Fool's pages.

Your library article ["Adult Books Only at Noe Library"], crass ads (particularly J. Welch's "gold earrings for sale, four years old, never worn"), and the home business fashion spread should be seen by those in power in this city!

Marjorie Sheffield
Castro Street

St. Paul's Needs Saviors

Editor:

My name is Michael Angelo Molina, and I am a parishioner of St. Paul's Church, where the movie *Sister Act* was made. [The church was the subject of a March 1993 story, "St. Paul's: Where Are Those Singing Nuns When You Need Them?"]

I am very active in the Noe Valley community, and have children attending St. Paul's schools.

Our oldest son, Michelangelo, who is almost 9, has taken it upon himself to be a spokesman for St. Paul's, which is currently facing the prospect of having to do major repairs to its cathedral and other buildings, to meet earthquake standards.

Michelangelo has made five to six speeches to the kids and adults of the

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church and community, and he is also talking with the merchants of Noe Valley about our attempts to hold fundraising drives. He has succeeded in gaining their support.

Michelangelo has many dreams, but the one thing he feels very strongly about is that the children are the future of this community, and that when we're all gone, they will continue to seek respect for the survival of our neighborhood institutions. Michelangelo and I have always kept this vision uppermost in our minds, that if we all pull together, not just in our community but anywhere that we happen to find our seeds planted, we can accomplish our goals.

If the cost of seismic retrofitting forces the church to close down its surrounding properties, the property values will go down and businesses will not flourish. People's morale will decline, which will in turn lead to drug and crime activity, as demonstrated in the movie *Sister Act*. (Yes, art imitates life and life imitates art!)

Right now we have a chance to do something to avoid this situation—we can support the church's efforts to raise money for earthquake repairs.

Michael Angelo Molina Sr.

and Michelangelo Jr.

Church Street

Locksmith Hands Over Keys to His Shop

Editor:

Although I am headed for new adventures (as reported by my children in last month's *Voice*), my locksmith shop, Key Kraft, will remain in operation with the new owner, Katherine "Katy" Lawson, and her staff, Trudee and David.

The store, located at the corner of Church and 28th streets, will be open Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and 1 to 6 p.m.

For continued friendly and courteous service, you can still call Key Kraft at the same phone number we have been using here in Noe Valley for the past 15 years, 285-0134.

I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has made my past 15 years, working in the Noe Valley area, a wonderful and fulfilling experience I will never forget.

Dennis Soibelman

Former owner, Key Kraft

Church Street



In the 1980s, Ben Smith's decaying Victorian cottage at 4250 23rd St. was an object of curiosity for neighborhood children—especially around Halloween. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

Ben Smith's 'Ghost House' Gets a Makeover

By Loren Bialik

It took the late Ben Smith more than 50 years to cultivate that shabby haunted-house look at his home at 4250 23rd St.

But now, the new owners have come along and are restoring it to its Queen Anne splendor. Except for the hundreds of pigeons who call the house their home, no one is squawking.

Lorenzo Boelitz and David Jerome, two building contractors doing business as Boelitz & Jerome, bought the house from Smith's estate for \$450,000 in January 1993.

"I've been watching this building for 15 years," Boelitz said. So has the rest of the neighborhood.

Built in 1893 by William Hebling for then-owner John Conly, the turreted cottage, perched on the corner of 23rd and Eureka streets, could once be seen by sailors in San Francisco Bay. Though many Victorian homes were mass-produced, Smith's house was individually designed by architect William Mooser.

The house is mentioned in the August 1893 issue of *The California Architect and Building News*, and architectural historian Judith Lynch extolled its virtues in the November 1980 edition of the *Voice*. It also was featured in a Toyota television ad this past fall.

"This is the most spectacular house in Noe Valley," Boelitz maintains. "It's very elegant and graceful."

In 1893, it cost \$3,000 to build the original house. By 1942, when Ben Smith and his wife, Alma, bought it from the estate of Robert Rankin, it cost \$4,500, representing a 50 percent increase in value. But between 1942 and 1993, it increased 9,900 percent in value!

The house in 1993 was hardly in "mint" condition, however. After years of neglect, the paint on the building's dingy

exterior had long since peeled away, and tattered lace hung like cobwebs across its broken window panes.

According to neighbor Helen Garvey, who wrote a memorial tribute to Smith in the June issue of the *Voice*, Smith had stopped taking care of the house about the time Alma died in 1970. But neighbors across the street said the house's decay began at least a decade earlier. "It looked like that when we moved in in 1961," remarked Jack McKeon, a long-time Eureka Street resident.

Albert Trenchard, who used to be Ben Smith's neighbor on 23rd Street and who inherited the house from him, held an estate sale about nine months after Smith died (in April of 1992, at the age of 91). That was the first time many people in the neighborhood got to see the inside.

Smith, a former draftsman for the Joseph Roebling Steel Co. who came to San Francisco from New York to work on the Golden Gate Bridge, was a pack rat. The interior of his house—which was as dark, dirty, and dank as the exterior—was so filled with odds and ends, it was hard for visitors to determine what purpose the rooms served.

Boelitz and Jerome have changed all that. A walk through the house today promises new beginnings.

"This room will be the dining room," Jerome said, as he pointed to a space in the front of the building. "And this will be the living room."

The house will be completely restored. "You'll walk into it, and you will feel that you have been in a restored 19th-century home," Boelitz said. "That breaks down, of course, when you get to kitchens," he continued, "because nobody wants a Victorian 19th-century kitchen." "Or bathroom," Jerome added quickly.

Jerome, who was trained as an architect at Harvard, and wife Sylvie, a gynecologist for the city's Public Health Department, plan to move their family—which includes two boys, Cary, 8, and Rohin, 5, and their dog Sam—into the house after remodeling is completed in July. The Jeromes currently reside on Douglass Street in Eureka Valley.

Boelitz and his wife, Joyce McGuire, who works for Apple Computer, live on Noe Street, in a house Boelitz has also been remodeling.

Though he has over 20 years of build-



New owners Lorenzo Boelitz and David Jerome plan to restore Ben Smith's 100-year-old "ghost house" at 23rd and Eureka to its original Victorian elegance. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

ing and remodeling experience, Boelitz admits that the Ben Smith house "is the mother of all remodeling jobs. After this, I'm going to take up dancing." Boelitz and Jerome expect that it will take from \$150,000 to \$200,000 to restore the house. And they hope to save money by doing much of the work themselves. They've also hired the architectural firm of Ellis A. Shoichet.

As for the former carriage house that sits in the back corner of the property, "that has been slowly composting itself," Jerome said. Currently before the San Francisco Planning Commission are Boelitz and Jerome's plans to split the parcel into two lots, one 50 by 90 feet, and the other 25 by 100. They intend to pull the carriage house down, and build another house on the smaller lot, although they are not yet sure of the specifics. There will be a zoning hearing May 5, 9:30 a.m., at 450 McAllister St.

"The bottom line is that without that lot, this would not be a viable project," Jerome said.

When it comes to restoration of the garden—the one part of his property that Smith tended with devotion—Boelitz said he and his wife Joyce, who has a special interest in landscaping, would most likely put in some magnolia trees,

"because magnolias are historical for the area. Alvarado School used to be a magnolia nursery," he noted.

Though in its previous condition Ben Smith's haunted house was certainly a good conversation piece, the neighbors seem to side with Boelitz and Jerome regarding its restoration.

"Every day," Boelitz said, "five people come along and thank us."

But the ultimate test of the remodeling team will come on Halloween. Will the house be accepted by the neighborhood's children? Will they swallow their fear of Noe Valley's oldest "ghost house," climb the steps, knock on the door, and ask, "Trick or treat?" □



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Alvarado Cancer Rates Fall Within Normal Range

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ter further.

The Health Department's findings were based on data gathered on 196 people employed at Alvarado at some point during the 10-year period Jan. 1, 1980, to Dec. 31, 1989. Ten cases of malignant cancer were confirmed in eight employees. Three of the cancers were associated with AIDS.

Based on historical San Francisco Bay Area cancer rates, 5.9 cancers were expected to develop over a similar time period in a population of 196 people with a similar age, sex, and race distribution.

Although the number of cancers at Alvarado was above the expected 5.9, Baxter explained in his letter to Rojas, "A total of at least 14 cancers observed would be required for the difference to reach statistical significance (a rare event) and allow us to suspect factors other than chance as contributing to the findings."

Baxter also pointed out that "cancer is a relatively common disease, especially with aging. In the U.S., our population has a lifetime chance of 1 in 3 of developing the disease. In San Francisco, as in the state and the nation, cancer is the second leading cause of death."

Requests from Alvarado to conduct the study date back to 1989, when then-principal Rose Barragan expressed concern to school district officials about the high incidence of cancer-related deaths among Alvarado teachers.

Because of continued pressure from Alvarado staff, the San Francisco Department of Public Health's Bureau of Epidemiology and Disease Control began investigating the situation in late 1991.

The study, according to the report, initially "progressed slowly, because the San Francisco Unified School District was not able to provide sufficient demographic and employment information concerning [Alvarado] employees to permit epidemiological analysis. This was ameliorated when, in October 1992, the Public Health Department acquired additional time-limited staff resources through the University of California, Berkeley Preventive Medicine Program."

The report later states that "data collection was complicated by the absence of systematic SFUSD electronic employee records prior to 1981 and of paper-base records prior to 1980." It also notes that "some personnel files could not be located and were believed to have been lost during the 1989 earthquake."

Consequently, people employed at Alvarado during the 1970s were excluded from the investigation, the report acknowledges.

"Although data collection was as complete as circumstances allowed, considering the 'softness' of the data, we may have incorrectly estimated some employment dates or overlooked a small number of people who worked at the school during the cohort period selected.

"In addition to known employees, we knew that a number of others, including volunteers, itinerant teachers, and substitute teachers, may have been present at the school for considerable periods of

time. Due to the lack of systematic reliable information for enumerating these other people, we were unable to include them. . . . Had we been able to do this, particularly due to an older cohort effect, the number of cancers expected and the number observed would have been greater," the report reads.

Although some Alvarado staff members believe the cancer cases might be attributable to the electromagnetic fields (known as EMF) surrounding the transmitters and 12,000-volt power lines near the school's entrance at 625 Douglass St., the Health Department study was not intended to evaluate any causal relationship between the cancers and exposure to EMF.

In September 1991, an evaluation by an electrical engineer from Citizens Concerned About Electromagnetic Fields, a group located in San Ramon, Calif., found the fields at their strongest point to be well below 1 milligauss.

A similar evaluation, conducted by PG&E officials three months later, found outside spot measurements ranging from .29 milligauss to 2.37 milligauss. According to most experts, readings blow 2 milligauss do not present a health hazard.

The Health Department study pointed out that among the 10 confirmed cancers there were two Kaposi's sarcomas and one lymphoma associated with AIDS, "and clearly not associated with any potential environmental factors at the school."

It also noted that the seven remaining cancers (including breast, leukemia, endometrium, lymphoma, and pancreatic cancer) "reflected a variety of anatomic sites . . . that suggested no common connection. Absence of a common type of cancer argues against an association between any one potential environmental factor and cancer occurrence."

The report emphasized that age, sex, and race were important predictors of cancer and were taken into account in the Health Department's analysis. However, it continued, "We could not and did not evaluate for some of the more important risk factors for cancer, such as cigarette smoking, diet, alcohol use, family history, or other exposures. . . ."

The report recommended that the school district step up its education efforts on the general incidence and prevention of cancer.

In the meantime, the *Voice* will press for further study of the potential links between cancer and the environment, particularly when it comes to children, who most research indicates are more susceptible to environmentally-caused cancer than adults.

Although a 1989 Health Department investigation of excess cancer among children in Noe and Eureka valleys concluded that a "cancer cluster," which appeared in the early 1980s, was most likely a statistical anomaly, most children attending Alvarado do not live in these neighborhoods and were therefore not a part of the study.

Last year, Dr. Eva Glazer, an epidemiologist with the Cancer Surveillance Section of the State Department of Health Services in Sacramento, offered to compile an evaluation on the expected versus observed number of adult and child cancer victims over the past decade in Noe and Eureka Valley census tracts.

In February, Glazer said she planned to have a finished report on the two areas by April 30. The *Voice* contacted Glazer for her response to the Health Department study, but she was out of town and unreachable until April 26. □

Still Top of the Mornin' for 100-year-old Mike McCarthy

Continued from Page 1

—Marge Ford, Edward McCarthy, Evelyn Dion, and Rita Anne Beck—is capped with commendations from the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and the Consul General of Ireland, as well as personal greetings from Bill and Hillary Clinton.

A few days later we are sitting in Marge's living room on 22nd Street. In addition to Marge and Mike, there's Marilyn Richards, Mike's granddaughter from Pomona, her husband, Scott, and myself—Mike's next-door neighbor for over 13 years.

We're speculating on Mike's secret to longevity. Scott says, "Poppa has a saying. When people ask him, 'To what do you attribute a long and healthy life?' he says. . . ." And then Scott pauses and turns to Mike. "You take it from there, Poppa."

Mike's face lights up in a puckish grin, and he begins to recite: "I get up each morning, and dust off my wits. I pick up the paper and read the obits. If my name is not mentioned, I know I'm not dead. So I eat a good breakfast and go back to bed."

The room breaks up in laughter as Mike looks pleased with himself.

"He's always been a big joker," says Marilyn. "For a while, back when he was working on the Muni, he'd show up with a whisky bottle filled with tea. They thought he was tipping on the job, until one day somebody called him on it. He pulled that one quite a few times."

A little history. Michael McCarthy was born May 1, 1893, on a farm in Kenmare, County Kerry, Ireland, the fifth child of 12 brothers and sisters. In 1915, when he was 22, he set off for America with just the clothes on his back ("And not even any socks," says Marge).

Two uncles in Montana found him a job at the copper mines, but hard times hit Montana, and in 1917 Mike came to San Francisco, where he worked as a carpenter's helper and then in the shipyards at Hunter's Point.

In 1921 he began a 43-year career as a conductor with the Market Street Railway, forerunner to the present-day Muni.

Recalls Marilyn, "When I used to ride the cable cars as a little girl, Poppa would have little rhymes for every street. Like he'd say, 'Your day will be fine if you get off at Pine.' People thought it was kind of neat, and they'd actually go out of their way to ride his cable car—actually pass up one car to wait for his. He made it really fun." In June 1961 McCarthy was annointed Muni Man of the Month.

So it appears that part of Mike's secret to long life is a lively sense of humor.

"Well, it's certainly not what he eats," chimes in Scott enviously. "He always loads up his potatoes with butter, and he loves chocolate chip cookies and Dreyers

vanilla ice cream. He could live on that. Also, he smoked until he was 65 or 70—cigars, cigarettes, and pipes. And, of course, he always has to have his Jamison."

That would be Jamison Irish Whisky, which Mike still enjoys regularly, twice a day. In fact, it is seldom that a visitor is not asked to share a "highhall."

"The other thing about Poppa," says Scott, "is that nobody could ever remember when he was sick."

Most remarkable was Mike's recovery from a fall, taken at the age of 97, into an open PG&E ditch, when he broke the fibula just beneath his knee.

"He was in the hospital five days," recalls Marilyn, "and was a terror the whole time. He thought it was a hotel and kept asking for room service. But they all loved him. They thought he was great."

Two weeks of recuperation at home, and Mike was fully recovered. This was unquestionably due to being in excellent shape. Every morning like clockwork, Mike stands between the door frame and does 35 to 40 deep knee bends. Later you can find him, dressed to the nines and cane in hand, walking his daily two-block route between Sanchez and Castro, on 22nd Street.

In 1919, Michael Joseph McCarthy married Katherine McCabe, a beautiful Irish colleen from Ballyhaise, County Cavan, Ireland, and they were eventually blessed with four children. Katherine died in 1983. But Mike is today the proud grandfather of 16 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren, many of whom find time to stop by and say hello during the year.

When they come, they always say, "Poppa, sing us a song." Blessed with a strong, clarion-clear tenor voice, Mike is still capable of charming any kind of audience—from family members to the parishioners at St. James' Church, where each St. Patrick's Day he sings "Danny Boy" at the 9 o'clock mass.

One morning in April, I bumped into Mike on the street, all spiffed up in tie, jacket, and hat.

"Ya' lookin' good, Mr. McCarthy," I said, affecting an Irish brogue.

Mike laughed and replied, "Oh my oh my oh my oh my oh my." Then he grabbed my hand. I knew what was coming.

"Knock, knock," he said.

"Who's there?"

"Orange."

"Orange who?"

"Orange ya' gonna let me go?"

Then the always-uplifting Michael McCarthy reached into his pocket and passed me one of his ever-present peppermints. □

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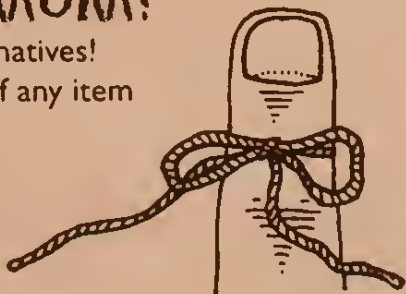
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Portrait of (Part of) the Crotti Family: Over the past half a century, three generations of Crottis, the first of which arrived from Italy in 1952, have thrived on 26th Street. Pictured in the front row of this gathering are husband and wife Mario and MaryAnne Crotti flanking family matriarch Gina Crotti, holding her grandchild and Mario and MaryAnne's youngest, Giancarlo. The adults standing behind them are (from left) Teddi and Frank Crotti, with sister

Cathy Soldavini; and patriarch Bartolo Crotti posing next to son Gus Crotti. The youngsters perched on the countertop are Theo (left) and Bartolo, Teddi and Frank's two boys, arm in arm with Amy, daughter of MaryAnne and Mario. Now just imagine if the rest of the family had been in town! Gina and Bartolo Crotti are the proud parents of nine children; only four—Mario, Frank, Cathy, and Gus—were on hand for this snapshot. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP.

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SF NET— A Computer Bulletin Board for The Masses

By Charles Levin

In the back corner of Wayne and Jill Gregori's Noe Valley kitchen sit three computer terminals, two screens, and 32 modems. A passionate argument takes place on one of the screens.

The protagonists—Prince Romeo, Miss Anthrope, Lemming Boy, Amodeus Asmodeus, and some 10 others—are in the midst of a furious debate over the relative merits of underground "rave" parties, their comments flying across the screen at dizzying speed.

To the outside observer, their remarks seem more like cryptic gibberish than intelligible English.

But to the Gregoris, the exchange is easily decipherable. "For all the inane stuff you see there," says Wayne Gregori, "when you do see some brilliance happen, it's incredible."

Welcome to the world of SF NET, a year-and-a-half-old computer bulletin board system (BBS) that the Gregoris own and operate from their home on Noe Street. Like other bulletin boards such as Prodigy, Compuserve, or Genie, the "Net" (as it's known to its devotees) provides a forum for electronic chitchat. But unlike its more upscale counterparts, SF NET made its debut in a coffeehouse, and has earned a reputation as the "people's" board.

"SF NET is an electronic network that represents a cross section of the city," Wayne points out. "It's becoming a San Francisco institution."

In about a dozen cafes around town, java junkies can plug a couple of quarters into a terminal (you get four minutes for 25 cents), sign on-line, and begin "Netting" with compatriots. Or those with a p.c. and modem can subscribe to SF NET at a cost of \$7 a month.

Netters post their opinions on free-for-all "chat" boards and open forums, or leave their private messages in E-mail. Whereas the chat boards seem frantic and ungrounded, the forums wax serious on topics like politics, arts, culture, and the environment.

Wayne and Jill met in 1984, while working for an East Bay computer company. After five dates in three months, and a two-hour discussion in the car about "religion and kids and everything," they decided to get married. In September of 1985, a month prior to their wedding, they bought a home in Noe Valley.

The Gregoris spent the next eight years going through more career changes than most couples risk in a lifetime. For Jill, who has a degree in mass communications, this included working for sales marketing firms and MCI's public relations department.

Wayne, who has a business degree, held a variety of jobs—from unloading produce trucks and doing a stint in the merchant marine, to selling computers, to hawking commercial real estate ("kind of the dark ages of my career"), to working as a general contractor.

During his construction days, Wayne got hooked on checking out the bulletin board systems he could call up on his home computer. So after pounding nails all day, he'd usually spend the evening pounding a keyboard.

"I was going from BBS to BBS one night to see what was going on," says the 35-year-old renaissance man. "And I'd hang up if I didn't like it. I got into this one board, was on there a while, and decided to blow it off by typing G for Goodbye on the screen. All of a sudden somebody breaks open this little chat box and says, 'Hey Wayne, don't go.'" At



It's hard to believe, but SF NET owners Jill and Wayne Gregori are sitting on 32 modems, which link about a thousand callers a day to their popular electronic bulletin board. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

first he thought it was just the computer talking, but then the message popped up again.

"I realized there was a real person on this thing," recounts Wayne. "And I went 'ahhhhhhhhh!' I'm telling you, the hair stood up on my arms. I could see what was happening here."

Soon after, he approached Jill with the idea for the Net.

"We always ultimately wanted to develop our own business," notes Jill, 32. "We were brainstorming that one weekend, and Wayne said, 'What would you think of building a computer and putting it in a public place?' I thought it was kind of crazy at first. But then I got to thinking it could work."

"It's one of those things where you try to develop a product nobody else has ever done before. This was it."

The Gregoris wanted to create an electronic bulletin board with a different philosophy. The majority of local boards were linked by one theme or hobby—which only attracted a certain set of users—and they saw this as flawed.

"That's the devastating thing that's happening in society—the idea that we only associate with people we're comfortable with and who experience life the same way we do," says Wayne.

"The BBS was this myopic extension of that naive perception in our society. It was the biggest disappointment to find that this medium of communication that got me so excited was so underutilized. It was so poorly spread out across the population that it bothered me."

"My richest life experiences have been with people from other cultures. While we watch our society come to a screeching halt with racism and everything, you start thinking, How are we going to change any of this stuff? It's through communication. It's through people talking to each other."

The first SF NET computer terminal went on-line in August of 1991, at the Brain Wash cafe in the South of Market area. And it unleashed a tidal wave of digital debating—most of it among unlikely bedfellows ranging from homeless people, to Mohawk-haired, nose-ringed, Haight Street punks, to Financial District computer geeks and Tiburon attorneys.

Most users choose outlandish names, preferring anonymity, but the Net sponsors get-togethers at local watering holes. And the Gregoris have seen a lot of "suits" sit down with "slackers," people who've netted compatibly with each

other for months, never knowing the extent of their external differences.

SF NET has expanded to 20 locations in four Bay Area counties, and now fields about 1,000 calls a day, 75 percent of them from people's homes. There are 350 paid subscribers and approximately 1,000 more people calling on a semi-regular basis.

The Gregoris have garnered media attention from the *San Francisco Chronicle*, *San Francisco Examiner*, *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Newsweek*, *National Public Radio*, and the TV show *Good Morning America*. Yet with little exception, netters express disappointment over the coverage, saying it portrays their world as nothing more than a pastime for punks and loafers.

"It's more than this trendy way of communication," says Aviva Rosenstein, who goes by the on-line moniker Aviva Rose. "It connects people with others whom they wouldn't have an opportunity to connect with otherwise. We tend to communicate by how people dress, where people hang out, or their given social stratum. The Net's a great equalizer."

Using the name Turbo Wench, Noe Valley architect Terri Emery netted for a year and found the experience fascinating.

"You're talking to all these people whose faces you never see, and getting to know them from a different standpoint than is typical," she says. "It's quite different than a work situation where you speak to someone on the phone many, many times, but then you actually meet them face to face. The computer is even more removed than that."

"We all tend to get a little too closed into our own private circles," Emery adds. "We see people in the street, but we never get to know their humanness, and how similar we all really are to each other. Some may have a punk style about them, but they have the same sensitivity and emotions the rest of us do."

The nearest terminal locations for Noe Valley residents are at the Muddy Waters Coffee House, 521 Valencia St. (near 16th), and at Club Coffee, at Valencia and 20th streets. But the Gregoris would like to plant a terminal in their own backyard, so to speak, and are currently searching for the right location.

"Noe Valley is the best place in San Francisco," says Wayne. "We kind of stumbled upon it when I was selling computers. It's an intellectually inclined community, an introspective community. It thinks."

Jill also praises Noe Valley's diversity, noting that it's a great place to raise a family. However, between raising their own two children—son Ben, 3, and daughter Devan, 4½—and running SF NET, she and Wayne don't have much free time for each other. But they make up for it in the most logical way—on-line.

"When Wayne's out at different cafes, he always pages me and it rings here, so I come over to the computer and we'll talk," says Jill, once known on the Net as Wee Willie Winkie. "We'll have the best conversations."

"That's our quality time," agrees Wayne. "There's something about the brevity of what you can do on here that allows you to get down to the nitty-gritty."

For those who want to converse beyond the Bay Area, SF NET has just completed a hookup to Internet, a bulletin board that facilitates E-mail throughout the world. For the price of a monthly Net subscription or a few quarters at the terminal, one can leave messages for friends in Paris or China. Other plans include a hookup to other cities in the U.S.—possibly Seattle in the near future—and an educational Net at schools, for children and teens to share their research and homework.

But mostly it's the Net's democratic appeal that draws people in—the idea that the board makes the world a little smaller and brings diverse people closer together, a Ted Turner analogy that Wayne and Jill don't dispute. In fact, the Gregoris' next pipe dream is to set up a public conference with the former Soviet Union.

"A few years from now, we'll be chartering a plane and taking all the Netters over (there)," Wayne says. "We'll go over and meet the people we've been talking with, and watch the sparks fly." □

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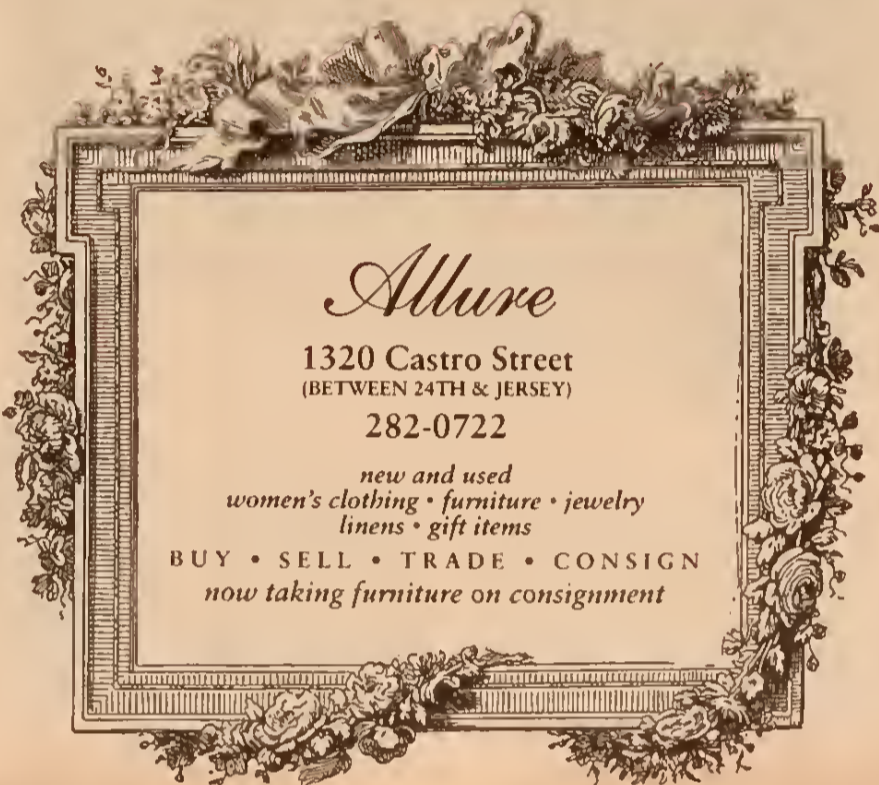
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We've Been Gouged by Graffiti

By Officer Lois Perillo

Numerous businesses at the corner of 24th and Castro streets were targeted in a recent rash of scratch graffiti, whereby vandals etched their "tag" (personal insignia) or "crew" (gang affiliation) into the glass of store windows.

Sometime the night of March 15, Cotton Basics, Vasquez Optical, Peek-A-Boo-tique, the Coin Wash, Mary's Exchange, and the southeast-corner bus shelter were "hit" with permanently defacing graffiti.

Unfortunately for the business owners, removal of the marks is not possible. At this time, however, I'm discouraging window replacement because of the high cost and the current likelihood that the vandals will strike again.

When I told Officer Dave Elliot about the scratch vandalism, he responded, "I wondered how long it would take to reach us."

Along with Officer Alexis Goldner, Elliot works the local "school car," a beat that specializes in school and juvenile law enforcement issues. He said that he'd first heard about scratch vandalism's ominous arrival in San Francisco about three months ago, at a citywide "school car" meeting.

This type of vandalism, although hard to spot in progress, is not impossible to identify. At a distance, you may see someone apparently drawing on a storefront window with their finger. You probably won't see any visible lettering, such as that made with markers or spray paint. But upon closer inspection or from a different angle, you'll see markings etched in the glass.

What should you do? Take note of the suspect's description—top to bottom—

POLICE BEAT

and call the police. Yes, 911 use is dictated in the event of a crime in progress. But if the suspect is nowhere in sight, use 553-0123 to report the crime. (Perpetrators should note that scratch vandalism is considered a felony when a window valued in excess of \$400 is permanently damaged.)

You'll See Red if You Get Ticketed

By now you've probably noticed the bright yellows and reds on many Noe Valley curbs. No, I'm not referring to pots of daffodils and tulips outside flower shops. I'm talking painted curb zones.

At my request, the city's Department of Parking and Traffic recently spruced up the paint on 24th Street's loading zones, as a reminder to drivers that yellow and black/yellow zones are reserved for actively loading or unloading commercial vehicles for a maximum of 30 minutes.

I also asked that the disabled access ramps cut into the sidewalk at various intersections be painted red, indicating that vehicles blocking them may be ticketed AND towed.

As many of you know, the Senior Action Network successfully lobbied Sacramento lawmakers for statewide legislation designed to increase access to walkways and public transit. Consequently, in California the penalty for stopping or parking in a bus zone is now \$250, while the ticket for parking in a blue zone or within three feet of a handicapped access ramp is a stiff \$275.

Contrary to popular belief, the raising of the fines was not the deed of greedy city politicians, nor was it a conspiracy to target the working class. It was merely an attempt to permit elders and disabled persons unimpeded access.

As a possible side effect, a disturbing new trend has developed within the resi-

dential areas adjacent to 24th Street: private driveways have become the favored quick-stop parking spot.

Although I acknowledge that easy availability of parking is a quality-of-life issue within an urban environment, so too is one's ability to freely access one's property. I ask you to use common courtesy and fair judgment, and please refrain from leaving your car unattended in another's driveway or double-parked on 24th Street.

Remember, I am the fastest (tag book) draw in the Valley, especially while riding my trusty (quick and quiet two-wheeled) steed.

1 Robbery, 2 Purse-snatchings

There was one commercial robbery and two reported purse-snatchings within my Noe Valley beat during late March.

An unidentified 25-year-old man wearing a blue hooded sweatshirt robbed the Noe Valley Bakery, on 24th Street near Castro, on March 27. Entering the shop at 5:13 p.m., the suspect, who had a bushy moustache, simulated a weapon through his sweatshirt and demanded money from a female worker who had been cleaning the bakery's display case. Fearing for her safety, the worker complied, and the suspect fled east on 24th Street on foot.

On March 30 at 8:40 p.m., while walking south on the east side of Dolores at 22nd Street, a 32-year-old woman was robbed of her purse by a man in his early 20s. A bystander later told the targeted woman (who reported no physical injuries) that the suspect drove off in a blue metallic Honda CVC-DX hatchback.

In another incident, two men in their late teens or early 20s snatched a 72-year-old woman's purse while she was walking south on the east side of Noe near 26th Street on March 25 at 1:35 p.m.

Mission CPOP Officer Lois Perillo covers a beat that stretches from 21st and Grand View to Army and Valencia. To reach her, or partner Sandy Ganster, call 647-2767.



PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

Tips on Senior Safety

As a result of the muggings of three seniors within Noe Valley and the Castro during February and March, the Diamond Street Senior Center, at 19th Street near the Eureka Playground, organized a personal safety presentation in early April.

Over 50 seniors were on hand to hear representatives from the Police Department and Safety Awareness For Everyone (SAFE).

The SAFE consultants performed role-play scenarios and demonstrated safer ways to carry a shoulder bag (on the shoulder, not crossing the chest, by the way). They also recommended that seniors limit their losses by carrying a "throw-away" wallet (with old I.D. and some money), which can be tossed toward the suspect with the exclamation "This is all I have!" as the targeted person moves or runs away.

Castro Community Police Officer Patricia Correa reported that Cliff's Variety Store, on Castro near 18th, was in the process of stocking safety-assist items such as shriek alarms and whistles.

Also, Steve Roseman, president of the Friends of Noe Valley, notes that his group has been working with Tuggey's Hardware on 24th Street to expand their supply of safety aids.

Curses, Foiled Again!

An attentive 27-year-old man interrupted a group of three males who were "boosting" (breaking into) cars on 23rd

Continued on Page 13

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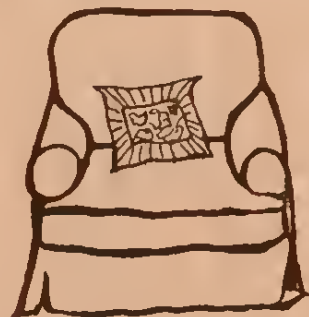
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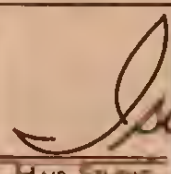
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MİYATA GIANT FISHER

POLICE BEAT

Continued from Page 11

Street near Noe last month.

On April 3 at 3:27 a.m., while looking out his home window, a witness saw three men walking west on 23rd Street shining flashlights into cars. Though he didn't see them actually enter a car, he noticed one of the men hiding items (later found to be a car stereo and camera) in nearby bushes.

The witness called the police, who detained one of the suspects. Responding officers found a boosted vehicle, which was out of the witness's view, but were unable to contact the registered owner to establish loss.

Directed by the witness, officers found the hidden car stereo, slide mount, and Polaroid camera, which they then took to the station pending owner identification.

The suspect was also taken to the station, then released, because there no evidence that actually placed him inside the boosted vehicle or in possession of stolen property.

Although there was no arrest in this case, the alertness, quick action, and cooperation of the witness stopped the criminals in their tracks and put them on notice that the community is watching.

Assault with a Car

A 44-year-old man who witnessed a woman's assault on his 24-year-old male friend at Castro and 24th streets March 21 around 5:40 p.m. intervened by driving his car to the targeted man and providing temporary shelter.

However, the assault continued with the suspect getting into her car and ramming the vehicle into the rear end of the car containing the witness and the targeted man, then fleeing the scene.

After the woman's car license number and description were broadcast on the police radio—the incident was classified as an "assault/hit and run"—Officer Pat Correa found the vehicle parked and unattended on Harrison Street. She had the vehicle towed and tagged with a "hold" (non-release order) for the inspectors bureau.

Learn Ways to Thwart Burglars

While the owner worked in his ground-floor garage on the 500 block of Eureka Street, an unknown person entered his house through a first-floor front window and stole his custom mountain bike from the entryway.

On March 31, between 7 and 9 p.m., the suspect apparently climbed through the unlocked window, took the bicycle—which had been visible through another window—and exited through the front door.

In an attempted burglary March 29, a woman was in her basement on the first block of Vicksburg Street at 9:15 a.m. when she heard a noise in the back yard and found a man in his mid-20s attempting to pry open her back window with a knife.

The 46-year-old woman questioned the suspect, who said, "I was looking for a friend." When the woman yelled to her husband, the suspect dropped the knife and fled through the back yard to Nellie Alley.

In a third incident, on March 23, a man in his early 20s, who was in the process of burglarizing an apartment on 23rd Street near Grand View and loading the tenant's car with her property, returned to the apartment just after the tenant arrived home.

When the 27-year-old woman came home at 1:44 p.m., she found her apartment door unlocked, her home in shambles, and a large amount of property stolen. As she spoke with her roommate on the phone, the suspect entered the apartment. When they saw each other, he turned and ran. She dialed 911 on her cellular phone and chased the suspect east on 23rd, while giving the police dispatcher a description.

Four police units searched the area without success. While I was at the burglarized apartment listing the stolen property, the reportee realized that the keys to her car, which was parked in the carport, were also stolen. We immediately went downstairs and found the car unlocked, with the tenant's large color TV inside the tailgate. Since the car keys

St. Paul's Priest Recovering From Assault in Sunset District

A popular Noe Valley priest has survived a severe beating at the hands of a housebreaker in late March.

Father Martin Greenlaw, 49, pastor of St. Paul's Church at Church and Valley streets, was returning to his home on Taraval Street in the Sunset District of San Francisco on the evening of March 26 when the assault occurred.

Police later speculated that the assailant followed Greenlaw into his garage after he opened it with an electric garage-door opener.

According to Sergeant Jake Stasko, of the San Francisco Police Department's night investigations division, Greenlaw was beaten on the head and shoulders with a blunt object.

He was found the next day by St. Paul's secretary Jeanne Handley, who had gone to his house to investigate after Greenlaw failed to show up for a church ceremony.

Stasko said Greenlaw was semi-conscious when found, and had no clear memory of the attack. Nor could he offer a description of his assailant. He later required surgery to repair head and facial fractures.

Last month he was reported to be in stable condition and recuperating from his injuries under the care of family members.

In their report, police classified the incident as a residential robbery, since objects were taken from Greenlaw's house.

But they did not want to discuss details of the robbery while the investigation was still under way.

Greenlaw's car was also stolen from his garage at the time of the assault. But it was recovered by police near the Cow Palace some four or five hours later.

Inspector Stasko, who grew up in San Francisco and often attends services at St. Paul's, said he was taking the case "very personally," and was resolved to keep it open until Greenlaw's attacker was caught.

Members of the St. Paul's community were stunned by news of the assault. "People were shocked that something like that could happen," said parishioner Eileen Keen.

Down the street at Speckmann's Restaurant at Church and Duncan, owner Elly Ullmann fondly recalled the many times the "friendly and outgoing" priest had visited her restaurant. "I think it's terrible. I'm very sorry it happened to him," she said.

Greenlaw has been pastor of St. Paul's for over two years. Previously, he served as pastor of St. Robert's Church in San Bruno. He is also a native of the Mission District.

Anyone wishing to send get well greetings to Father Greenlaw can do so by contacting St. Paul's Church at 221 Valley St., San Francisco, CA 94131, or by calling the church at 648-7538. □

were still outstanding, we removed the battery, and I advised that the car be re-keyed.

Hours later, I spoke with a neighbor who had seen the suspect carrying property from the apartment about 15 minutes before the tenant came home. The witness also saw the suspect drive away in a navy blue jeep-like vehicle with a black roof rack.

This suspect entered through a wood-framed, glass-paned terrace door by walking up an adjoining staircase that is accessible to all who enter the grounds.

A Strong Reminder: Doors and win-

dows are your weakest security link. Reinforce large glass panes with security film or replace with a double pane. Check window locks and use them. Make sure all your outer doors have deadbolts with a minimum 1½-inch throw and stable door jamb.

Also, take heed of these words of advice: personal safety is promoted through awareness of one's surroundings, trusting one's intuition, projecting confidence through eye-to-eye contact and body position, and having several plans to use if one is targeted by a suspect.

See you on patrol. □

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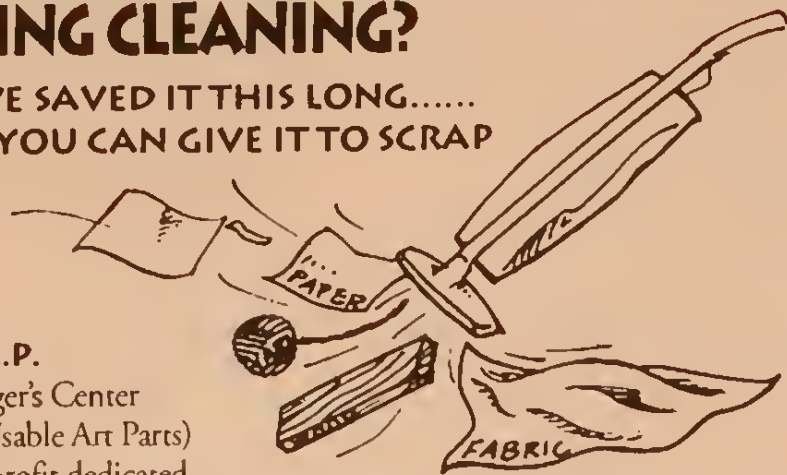
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St. Luke's Breast Health Center has modern x-ray machines that use very small radiation doses. All of our mammogram technologists are women who are specifically trained to take breast x-rays safely and effectively. Each technologist will explain how the breast x-ray is taken and answer your questions. If you are interested, your visit to St. Luke's Breast Health Center can include video instruction in breast self-examination (BSE).

To protect your health, call today for a mammogram appointment at St. Luke's Breast Health Center. You do not need to see your doctor to make an appointment for a mammogram. However, your test results will be sent to your doctor. If you do not have a doctor, St. Luke's Physician Referral Service can help you find one you can trust and who understands your needs. Call St. Luke's Physician Referral Service at 821-DOCS.

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Sermon on The Amount (of Money You Should Save a Week)

By B.L. Green

Noe Valley residents who think they're the only ones just scraping by financially can take heart, according to local financial planning consultant Elizabeth Domike.

"Don't feel bad if hill-paying is as far as your current money management goes," says the Clipper Street resident, who sees clients in her home and at San Francisco Associates, a financial planning firm downtown. "Most of your friends and neighbors are probably in the same boat."

As common as the boat is, it needn't be a sinking ship. Domike asserts that any person of average means can learn to save, invest, and even achieve financial independence.

For the past two years, Domike has been making this claim in individual client consultations, group workshops, and investment clubs. She backs it up with dollars and cents data.

For example, a table she uses in a personal finances workshop shows that saving even a small amount over a long period can eventually produce a sizable bundle. Domike estimates that if a person starts saving \$12.50 a week at age 20,



Financial planning consultant Elizabeth Domike stresses the importance of saving your pennies while paying off debts. "There's a great psychological benefit from doing both," she says, "even if you save only a little." PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD.

and keeps saving that amount until age 65, the investment could be worth over \$1 million. Even a late start at saving that amount—say, at age 40—could result in a nest egg of more than \$100,000.

Such projections aren't the result of tricky calculations or wishful thinking. "It's all rooted in common sense," says Domike, adding that she tempers her hard-nosed practicality with plenty of empathy for her clients.

"I'm not in the sales field," she explains. "I'm in the helping field. I'm involved in a counseling endeavor."

Whether her clients are aging Noe Valley baby boomers worried about looming retirement, or young marrieds planning for their children's future, she finds certain common links among them.

"Typically, the people I see are frightened of traditional financial services, and afraid of being sold what they don't want," she notes. "Or they've been burned in the past." In any case, she says, "they're looking for clarity, a road map from where they are, to where they want to go."

Her clients' journey begins with a half-hour or 45-minute get-acquainted meeting, for which there's no fee. If she and the client click and want to continue, says Domike, "then the hard part begins."

First she reviews her client's financial situation and history. Then she assigns the homework: the person must prepare a budget, outline financial goals, and identify investment attitudes, history, values, and goals.

"After that," Domike says, "what I recommend can go in a lot of different directions, but essentially everyone needs to save more. So we make a plan that will allow for savings and investment."

Often, investment means putting money into "no-load" mutual funds (that is, investment funds that don't charge an upfront sales fee). What funds Domike recommends depends on the client's individual situation and needs. She prefers to invest with "socially responsible" funds, but also deals with conventional funds.

Apart from making her clients do their financial planning homework, Domike advocates a learn-as-you-earn approach, and urges everyone to research investment opportunities on their own, or to join an investment club. She has helped to organize two such clubs, where members investigate socially responsible investment avenues, and then put their money where their hopes are.

One group includes 15 women, ranging in age from their 20s to their 60s. Another group of 19 members is all male. Both groups meet monthly, with members contributing \$25 per meeting to an invest-

ment pool. The groups decide which stocks to purchase, then buy them collectively.

"They learn how to value a stock and a company, and to have fun in the process," Domike says. "The guys' group is much more aggressive, while the women's group tends toward common sense. It's very interesting. I could almost do a sociological study."

A California native and self-described "child of the '60s," Domike grew up suspicious of business, but interested in the technical side of finance. Eventually she opened her own bookstore in Seattle, and after a while noticed that her customers often dropped in and talked to her about their financial situation—probably, she says, because she wasn't judgmental. This helped her to see that she liked helping people and wanted to become a counselor of some kind.

She decided to combine her interest in finance with her desire to do counseling, and headed for school to learn accounting. She spent the next 12 years gathering experience in bookkeeping, pension administration, and financial consulting. Eighteen months ago, after earning her certification as a financial planner from Golden Gate University, she set up shop.

These days she provides a consistent set of rules to all her clients. For one thing, she says, don't do anything financially unless it makes sense to you. "If you can't understand it, don't do it."

She also advises people to pick a specific goal for saving, rather than merely saving for the sake of saving. "That way it's not a vague, unreal transaction. When

you reach your goal, then you can feel really good. You've saved for something definite, and you've paid for it."

Another tip: save even while you're paying off debts. "There's a great psychological benefit from doing both, even if you save only a little," says Domike. "Don't neglect the psychological element of handling money."

In addition, she tells everyone to save at least 10 percent of what they earn, to save the same amount consistently over a period of time, and to start saving early.

These and other principles are included in her list, "The Ten Commandments of Wise Money Management," which she uses in workshops.

Domike also stresses the importance of instilling financial responsibility in youth. In fact, she is a member of the San Francisco chapter of the International Association of Financial Planners, which currently has a proposal before the San Francisco Unified School District to teach financial planning to students.

Already, several high schools are involved, notes Domike. Instruction is geared to matters of particular interest to teenagers, such as how to get credit, and how to finance a car purchase.

Her basic advice, however, is the same for everyone, regardless of age. "You don't have to save a lot, but if you save consistently, it will make a difference." □



Notes from The Financial Planner's Bible

For many people, saving even a dollar of their monthly paycheck would require nothing less than an act of God, or so they think. According to Noe Valley financial planner Elizabeth Domike, however, "The Ten Commandments of Wise Money Management" will help anyone prosper—without the need for a miracle.

Domike doesn't claim original authorship for the following rules, since they've circulated for some time among financial planners. Nevertheless, she stresses their importance as an antidote to the first and foremost problem people have with their finances: not thinking clearly about them.

"People are so vague about their money," she says, "But if you really thought about it, you wouldn't spend it frivolously."

So take heed. And here are the commandments:

1. Thou shall put out no more money than you take in.
2. Thou shall spend money thinking of your future as well as your present.
3. Thou shall remember that compound interest is never retroactive.
4. Thou shall not collect credit cards nor use them carelessly.
5. Thou shall honor always your debts and obligations, also to thyself.
6. Thou shall have a plan and spend money also on savings and investments.
7. Thou shall search for high interest rates and a good return.
8. Thou shall live moderately and not worship the god of materialism.
9. Thou shall practice dollar-cost averaging in your investments (that is, save a consistent amount over a significant period of time).
10. Thou shall obtain a financial education so as to be no one's fool.

—B.L. Green

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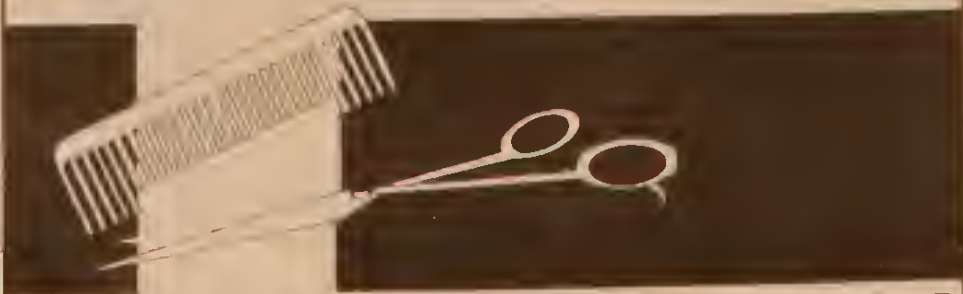
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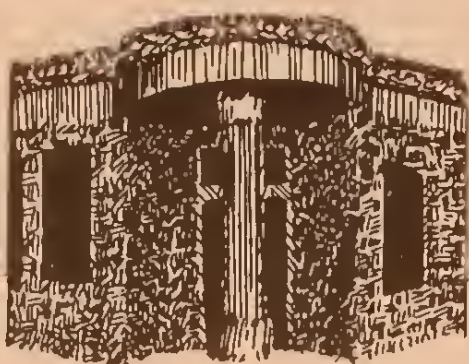
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Cheers for Blaustein

Longtime Army Street resident and Noe Valley activist Miriam Blaustein will be honored by San Francisco Tomorrow at a "Celebration of Unsung Heroes" on Wednesday, May 19, at the Presidio Officers Club, 50 Moraga St. at Arguello.

Blaustein, along with Enid Lim and the Rev. Norman Fong, will receive a Jack Morrison Lifetime Achievement Award, for her decades of volunteer service to the community.

Neighborhood resident and San Francisco Tomorrow member Jean Amos, a self-described "loudmouth who is nowhere near as wonderful as Miriam," reels off a long list of Blaustein's contributions. "Miriam is a one-woman show who has all but devoted her life to Noe Valley and San Francisco. She has accomplished so many things—for community gardens, libraries, children, Prop. M, intergenerational activities...."

"I think that Miriam is indirectly responsible for the diversity of the business district in Noe Valley," Amos continues, "and for its small scale, which is what people love about it."

Tickets for the dinner (to which all of Blaustein's friends are warmly invited, Amos says) are \$35, with discount rates for seniors. Cocktails are at 6 p.m., and the dinner starts at 7:30 p.m.

Proceeds will go to further the work of San Francisco Tomorrow, one of the city's largest and oldest urban environmental organizations. The keynote speaker for the event will be Huey Johnson, founder of the Trust for Public Land, state secretary of resources under Jerry Brown's administration, and currently a proponent of the U.N. Commission on Sustainable Development, to be located at the Presidio.

To purchase tickets, send a check payable to San Francisco Tomorrow to 949 Filbert St., No. 6, San Francisco, CA 94133.

Or call Charlene Clarke at 227-4000.

SHORT TAKES

Best Carnival on Earth

The 14th annual Carnaval San Francisco—the city's most colorful multicultural celebration—returns to the Mission District the last weekend of May. And this year's theme is "Love Your Mother. Protect Your Environment."

Festivities kick off on Friday, May 28, when Latin jazz legend and this year's grand marshal, Eddie Palmieri, heats up the Salsa Ball at Cesar's Latin Palace, 3140 Mission St., from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Saturday, May 29, marks the opening of a free, two-day outdoor festival on Harrison Street between 16th and 21st streets, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. The festival will feature non-stop entertainment on three stages, the "Tastes of Carnaval" food pavilion, and an Earth Block exhibit—an entire city block of art, entertainment, and hands-on fun attractions focusing on the environment.

The Carnaval Grand Parade will take place on Sunday, May 30, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Hundreds of revelers will shed their inhibitions (and much of their clothing) in a joyous promenade of floats, dancers, and musicians that will begin at 24th and Bryant streets, move west on 24th to Mission, north on Mission to 14th, east on 14th to Harrison, and south to the festival site.

The celebration winds up Sunday evening at the Samba Ball, 650 Howard St., starting at 8 p.m. The party will feature music by Viva Brasil, Escola Nova de Samba, Ginga Brazil, and Fogo na Roupa.

Founded in 1979, Carnaval San Francisco is produced by the Mission Economic and Cultural Association (MECA) as a fund-raising project for the Mission Neighborhood Centers.

Tickets for both Carnaval balls (attendees must be at least 21 years old) and

reserved seating at the parade are available at BASS/Ticketmaster outlets (510-762-2277), all Discolandia record stores, and through MECA (824-8999). You can also call the Carnaval Hotline (824-8999) for more details.

Sort out the Food Drive

If you have ever wondered what happens to all the canned food that you donate to food drives, now you have an opportunity to find out.

The San Francisco Food Bank needs volunteers to help receive, sort, and stock donated food on May 15, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., and on May 16, from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m.

The Food Bank is conducting a city-wide food drive on May 15, sponsored by the San Francisco Postal Workers Association. According to volunteer coordinator Belinda Cruz, "This is a very important drive, because it's the first time we've done one with the postal workers. We're expecting a lot of food."

The San Francisco Food Bank, located at 333 Illinois St. on Potrero Hill, is a non-profit organization that provides food to over 300 agencies working to stop hunger in the city. Groups such as the Salvation Army, St. Anthony's, and Glide Memorial Church can purchase food for 14 cents per pound; bread and produce are free.

To find out more, contact Belinda Cruz at 957-1076.

Summer Camp for Kids

May is the month that registration begins for the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department's summer day camp programs.

The city's three day camps—Silver



Starting at 11 a.m. on May 30, the always dazzling Carnaval parade will wend its way west on 24th (from Bryant Street) and north on Mission to 14th. PHOTO BY DAVID ALLEN

Tree, located above Glen Park playground at Chenery and Elk streets; Pacific Art, at Jackson Playground on Potrero Hill; and Pine Lake, in Stern Grove off Sloat Boulevard—will be open from June 28 through Aug. 27, and the early bird gets the worm when it comes to signing up for these popular programs.

On Saturday, May 8, registration will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Jackson Playground, on Arkansas Street between 17th and Mariposa streets. A second round of registration will take place May 10-14, 9 a.m. to noon and 5 to 8 p.m., and May 17-21, 9 a.m. to noon, at the McLaren Lodge Annex, Golden Gate Park, at Fell and Stanyan.

After May 21, registration will be by appointment only, and can be arranged by calling 666-7039. Proof of age is required at the time of registration (birth

Continued on Page 12

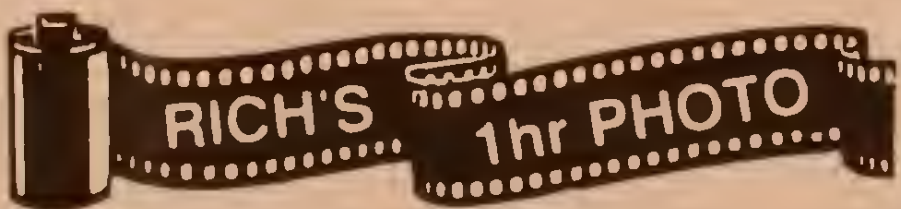
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Antique Car Collectors Tool Around Together

By Larry Beresford

The first Model A Ford rolled off its Highland Park, Mich., assembly line in January of 1928.

The "A" was a populist vehicle, relatively affordable but extremely well-built and durable—in short, a worthy successor to the Model T, the car that revolutionized the auto industry when Henry Ford introduced it in 1914.

Over five million Model A's, in 17 different body styles, were built between 1928 and 1931. Surprisingly, many are still operational today, their owners active in touring groups and local chapters of the Model A Ford Club of America.

And some owners, like Noe Valley plumbing and electrical contractor Clifford Grutze, actually use their prized old cars in their daily lives. Grutze drives his 1931 Ford truck five days a week, hauling materials and supplies to job sites.

But quite a few other Model A's are lying neglected or disassembled in the backs of garages and barns, and Grutze would like to meet their owners. "We've got parts to trade," he says with a grin.

The life expectancy for a well-tended Model A is virtually forever, notes Grutze, who owns three—two that he reassembled, and one, ravaged by termites, that he is now painstakingly restoring from scratch.

"I've known people who've had Model A's in their garages for 15 years and haven't taken them out," says Grutze. "I'm sure there are also Model A's someplace that nobody knows about. Some of them are salted away right here in San Francisco. I know of at least four on 25th Street alone, just between Castro and Church streets."

Another Model A owner and a friend of Grutze's—Noe Valley resident and 24th Street dentist Barry Kinney—adds, "There are a lot of old garages in the city, and back yards with old barns. I've seen Model A axles and bumpers just lying around. You can recognize them if you know what to look for."

Kinney, Grutze, and four of their friends



Clifford Grutze says you can recognize his distinctive 1931 Ford pickup by its "faded Southern Pacific beige" veneer, the plastic flowers on the fender, and the periodic dribble of water from an overtaxed radiator. PHOTO BY ED BURN

belong to the Bay Area chapter of the Model A Ford Club, and also have their own informal group here in the neighborhood for mutual assistance.

Grutze and Kinney both collect spare parts and have established a pact: whoever needs the part first gets it—without money changing hands. Parts can also be obtained through catalogs and magazines produced by 258 Model A Club chapters, with over 15,000 members nationwide.

"The majority of Model A's are owned by people like myself, who like to drive them on weekends, at club events, and sometimes on long trips," rather than just

for show, Kinney says. "The emphasis is on driving these things—not letting them sit around in the garage and look pretty. You can really get in them and use them."

"You feel a little special when you're driving these old cars," he adds. "You get a lot of hurrahs when you're driving down the street. There's a certain ego gratification that goes along with that. We also get a little pride out of being able to repair and restore them ourselves. And then when you stop, people come over, and everybody has a story to tell: 'My dad had a car just like that.' We hear some of the damndest stories from people. You can really see the wheels turning."

Vintage car owners say they have a special feeling for the Model A, its his-

tory and what it epitomizes about American workmanship. In the latest issue of *The Restorer: The Magazine for Model A Ford Enthusiasts*, Dennis Flood explains, "The Model A symbolizes the struggle through the Depression, the engineering genius and skills of the American worker and that of Henry Ford. The Model A symbolizes America and her spirit and her values as a nation."

Grutze and Kinney participate in frequent events for Model A owners around the Bay Area, including overnights to the Gold Country and occasional longer trips, such as driving in a caravan to Canada or Mexico.

"Invariably there will be a breakdown on these trips, so we spend a lot of time in roadside seminars as we help somebody fix his car," Kinney says. "Next time it could be you."

Although the A is probably the most common and durable survivor of its era, it is not the only antique auto prized by collectors. Dorian Clair, proprietor of the clock repair shop at Sanchez and 26th streets, and friend to Grutze and Kinney, owns an even older, 1920 Chevrolet—a car he loves to hate.

"When I was about 10, I read something about what a poor piece of machinery [the 1920 Chevy] was and how unreliable it was," he says. "It was meant to compete with the cheapest thing on the market, the Model T Ford. Chevrolet couldn't manage to build anything for the same price, and they certainly undercut the quality."

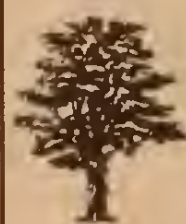
Clair's description of his vintage car, and of virtually everything Chevrolet made prior to 1931, is a non-stop flow of gibes about bad engineering, bad design, and bad metallurgy. In fact, he even finds the Vintage Chevrolet Club of America less interesting than hanging out with his Model A Ford friends.

But the reason he chose his Chevrolet becomes clear when his friends point out that he's got an eye-catching rarity in the antique auto world. And Clair affirms this. "I didn't want a Model A, because everybody I knew seemed to have one," he explains. "I had to have something different."

Plus, he adds, the parts for old Chevys come cheap. "It's more of a contest for people who own the things: who can we foist this stuff off on, and can we get them to come pick it up? So the parts are plentiful and they're free."

Clair's Chevy was taken off the road in 1928, disassembled, and left on a garage floor ("the man who took it apart happened to die before he could sell anything"), then reassembled in 1960. "When it was built, it was rolling junk. Now it's a good piece of equipment."

Clair has brought a clockmaker's touch



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Car Collectors Form Mutual Aid Society

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to restoring his car from the ground up. Now, after several trips to machine shops, and with his modifications of the brakes, steering, transmission, engine, and electrical system, as well as the addition of air and oil filters and an oil pump, he says, "At this stage of life I wouldn't hesitate to drive it to New York. It would make it, and back, with just oil changes." The reclamation project has taken most of the seven years he has owned it, and was, he says, "something to do in the evening."

Although vintage cars—like vintage Harley-Davidson motorcycles—require frequent mechanical attention, they have simpler designs and fewer working parts than modern cars, so they can, in fact, be fixed right by the side of the road.

"Unless you know a little bit about how to take care of your car and how to troubleshoot, you're not going to get very far down the road before you start having something happen," Kinney explains. "But everything is right there. It's real basic and real simple, compared with a modern car engine, which is just a maze."

Clair notes that when an old car quits, "if you have an old pair of pliers, a key to use as a screwdriver, and the pavement to use as a file to clean the points, you'll get it going again just fine. But if my new Honda breaks down, I might as well



Whenever 24th Street dentist Barry Kinney takes his 1931 Model A Ford, painted a spiffy maroon and black, out for a spin in Noe Valley, he gets a chorus of "hurrahs" from onlookers. PHOTO BY TOM WACHS

abandon it. I couldn't fix it. I wouldn't try. I can't even find the carburetor in it," he says, adding, "If you try to tune up a modern car without the computer that the dealer uses, you'll just make it worse."

These three vintage car owners were interested in cars even as teenagers, but no more so than their friends.

"I started with a Model T when I was going to Mission High School in the '60s," Grutze says. "Everybody else was

getting '49 Mercs and putting big engines in them if they had the money, or else '55 Chevys. My parents let me have a Model T because it was in pieces and I could get it for \$25. They were sure I wouldn't be able to get it running until I was out of high school." And they were right. Grutze was in college before he got it on the road, but he still owns it.

"I had a 1926 Dodge for years," Clair volunteers. "I would consider it one of

the best cars ever built, although it had one of the poorest transmissions. It's still running today. I sold it to a pet hospital in Foster City. I bought a Model A when I was in high school, for \$400, but my father wouldn't let me keep it. I had to sell it back."

Although Grutze says his most recently acquired Model A is for his wife, Kris, to drive, it's clear that the Noe Valley Model A group is predominantly a masculine society, especially when the guys get together to swap stories, have a beer, and listen to the jukebox (also an antique, belonging to another club member).

"Without exception, every time that my wife has ridden in my Model A, it has broken down," Kinney reports. "So she won't get in it. It's almost like it knows she doesn't like it. Otherwise it runs pretty good. So I drive it by myself or with friends."

All three men own modern cars alongside their antique ones, and can appreciate the pros and cons of both. "You tend to think of this old car being in somebody's family, and the kids going to town in it over rutted dirt roads, in all kinds of weather," Kinney explains. "It was their connection to the community."

Adds Grutze, "The other thing that impresses you when you get in these things and drive any distance is that this is what it was like 50 or 60 years ago to drive a car. They don't have air conditioning, radio, or heaters." Nor do they sport modern, high-powered headlights with dimmer switches. And in the rain, the windshield wipers have to be operated manually.

"My God," Grutze declares, "people drove these things!"

Noe Valley residents who have Model A's, whole or in parts, and who want to connect with likeminded enthusiasts, can give Grutze a call at 824-1899. □



Dorian Clair is the owner of a shiny red and black 1920 Chevrolet that is as meticulously restored as some of the old timepieces in his clock repair shop on Sanchez Street. PHOTO BY ED BURYN

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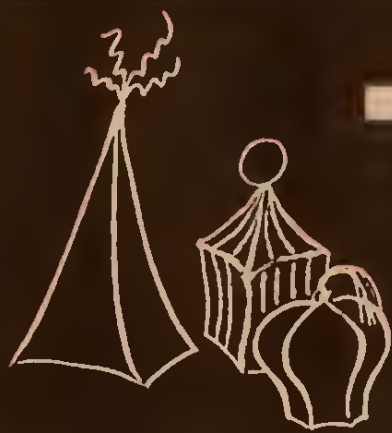
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Continued from Page 17

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The camps offer a variety of activities for kids age 6 to 14, including arts and crafts, games, hiking, swimming, cook-outs, treasure and nature hunts, dance, drama, singing, and field trips.

To find out about each camp's specific program, fees, hours, and age requirements, call 666-7039.

At the Randall Museum, located at 199 Museum Way, Rec and Park will also offer an Environmental Art and Science Camp, where children can learn about animals and their habitats through science and art activities.

The Explorer Camp, for kids age 6 to 8, will run from July 5 to 9, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Challenge Camp, for children 9 to 12, will run July 26 to 30, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The last day for priority registration is May 21, so call 554-9600 to find out how to sign up, or to learn about other classes, including ceramics and wood shop, at the museum this summer.

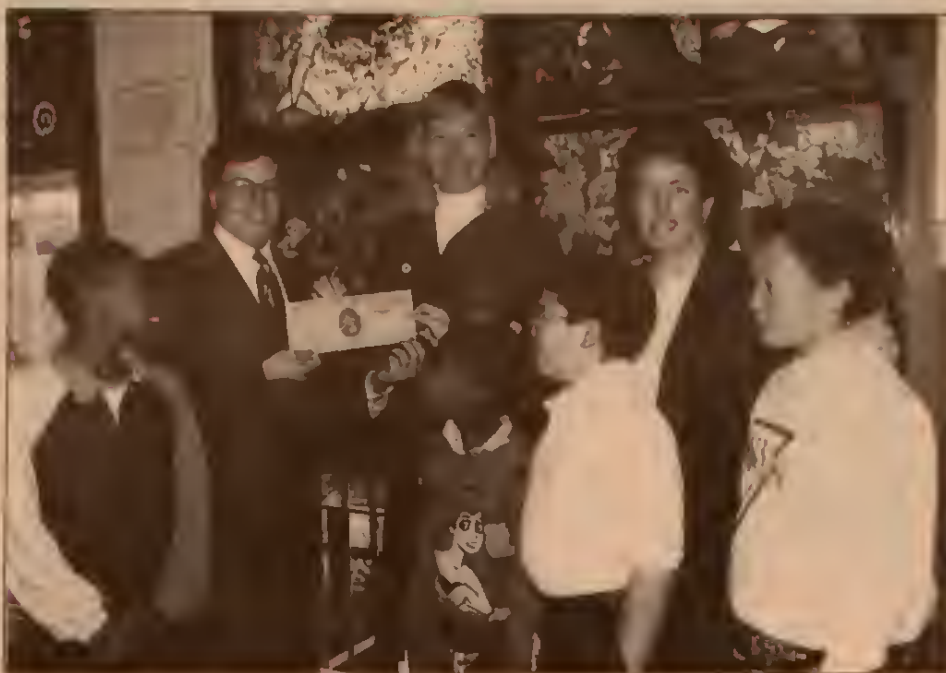
Alvarado Teacher Lauded

Nancy Schlenke, a third-grade teacher at Alvarado Elementary School, received a "Lifetouch Enrichment" grant in February—one of 240 grants awarded nationwide to educators whose ideas creatively address the topic of promoting self-esteem in the classroom.

Schlenke, who has taught at Alvarado for seven years, was commended for the "memory books" she creates with her students at the end of each school year.

"I save each student's work and photos throughout the year, and together we

SHORT TAKES



Teacher Nancy Schlenke joined Alvarado Principal Sandra Leigh (right) and students (left to right) Mack Taylor, Sheena Love, Jorge Mejia, and Deborlee Watson in accepting a \$250 check from Lifetouch Studios' Rick Sullivan (left). The grant was awarded to Schlenke in recognition of the "memory books" she creates in her third-grade classroom.

make books of their memories of my class," she explains, noting that some students' scrapbooks—which include their field trips, book reports, and holiday activities—can run as long as 60 pages.

"The books let the students take things home to friends and parents," Schlenke adds.

"It makes them feel good that these are things they did during the year, especially

because the books look professional."

The \$250 grant was awarded by Lifetouch National School Studios, a company that handles the annual school photo sessions, at a special ceremony at the school, located at 625 Douglass St.

Schlenke purchased a camera for the classroom with her grant money, so that she could continue to preserve her students' memories on film.

Salsa to Benefit Buena Vista

The PTA of Buena Vista Elementary School, located at 2641 25th St., invites the neighborhood to cha-cha, mambo, and samba the night away at a Latin dance party on Sunday, May 23, 8 p.m., at Cesar's Latin Palace, 3140 Mission St. (at Army).

This event is a fundraiser for Buena Vista, one of the few schools nationwide to offer a Spanish-language immersion program that challenges kids to become fluent in both English and Spanish.

Proceeds from the benefit will also fund Buena Vista's physical education and performing arts program, which, among other things, prepares students to dance and perform in San Francisco's annual Carnaval parade.

The dance will be emceed by Herbert Siguenza, a member of the popular comedy group Culture Clash, and will feature music by Los Compas, a San Francisco band that plays a "salsa" of Latin musical styles.

Dance lessons will be provided for novices as well as those who want to brush up on their skills. In addition, tickets for two to Puerto Vallarta—including round-trip airfare and one week's accommodations—will be raffled off.

Tickets to the dance are \$8 and can be purchased at Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St. (at 20th), 282-9246, and Studio 24 Galeria, 2857 24th St. (at Bryant), 826-8009.

For further information, contact Bonnie Bergeron at 285-2003.

This month's short takes were written by Michele Lynn and Jane Underwood.



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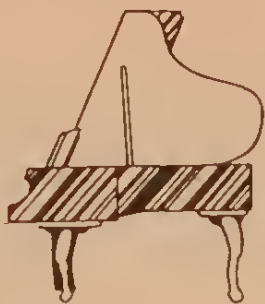
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Make Room for More Jazz in The Calendar

By Jeff Kaliss

You won't find jazz in the heart of Noe Valley anymore, nothing like the fab jams that Eddie Henderson used to lead at the erstwhile Salonicas on 24th Street a decade ago. But on nearby arteries, jazz blood is pumping hot, some of it quite new.

Feel the pulse Wednesday nights at Cafe Babar on Guerrero, or on Sunday evenings at Radio Valencia, 1199 Valencia St., currently featuring improvisers Glenn Spearman (sax) and Lisle Ellis (bass).

And over at the Elbo Room, on Valencia between 17th and 18th streets, "We're concentrating on this renaissance of jazz with a funk twist to it, jazz with rappers talking behind it," says manager Dennis Ring, taking a break from the bustle and din of the young Saturday night crowd on both levels of the popular club.

The gestating subgenre Ring's referring to was dubbed "hip hop" in an article by *Chronicle* writer Jesse Hamlin last month, but Ring prefers to call it "acid jazz."

"It started out of England about 10 years ago," Ring explains. "It was a lot of younger musicians getting turned on to jazz and listening to John Coltrane,

Miles Davis, Art Blakey, Horace Silver, and all those people, and then bringing in the modern hip-hop sound. It went from London to New York to San Francisco."

Its recent arrival in these parts has encouraged noted Noe Valley jazz men like drummer Eddie Marshall and trumpeter Peck Allmond to drop by the Elbo Room, a very different venue from toney jazz clubs such as Kimball's and Yoshi's, where jazz musicians are more usually seen and heard.

"In general it's fun," says Allmond about the Elbo crowd, "because if you're playing some happening music, they'll relate to it, even if they're not jazz fans per se, or are not coming specifically for the music. A lot of times you can suck people in."

Marshall sometimes sits in with Alphabet Soup, billed as a "hip-hop jazz sextet," and has formed his own similar group, which includes his son Andre at the rapper's mike.

"It's fun for me playing that type of drums," testifies the elder Marshall, who began with rhythm and blues bands in the '50s before going on to jazz greatness. "The hip-hop rhythm itself is more jazz oriented than disco, which I couldn't get into. It seems like a culmination of different street rhythms that black people

have more or less created.

"And Andre, he's quite a poet. These kids have developed a style where they can just rip off prose at a given moment, and it's all pretty clever."

When some of Marshall's more orthodox jazz colleagues grumble about not being able to understand or appreciate rap music, "I say, 'Look, you've been playing standards all your life with singers, and I bet you don't know the chorus to any of those songs.'"

Whether or not Elbo Room audiences are listening to the words or the music, they're definitely packing the place. "They tend to be around 25 years old, all ethnic and cultural make-ups, straight, gay, and lesbian," says Ring. "They're coming from the Lower Haight and the Mission, and on weekends from all over the Bay Area, a lot from the suburbs."

To anchor its clients for the long haul, the Elbo Room provides them a chance to take a breather from the music and grab a microbrew on the lower level. It also mixes up its five-night-a-week schedule with some acid-free bookings.

"And starting May 5 with the Broun Fellinis, we'll have a new Wednesday night feature," Ring announces. "It's called the Cafe BooHaab, and it'll be jazz, spoken word, and dance, all put

together in an evening of entertainment."

Poet/journalist/activist John Ross has been mixing words and jazz at Dog Eared Books on Valencia Street, kitty-corner from the Mission Police Station, monthly for some time now. Ironically, the bookstore's poetry readings are technically an illegal operation, under section 1060-F of the police code, but the law hasn't bothered him... yet.

The ordinance was passed in 1970 to raise money for the city by charging mimes, jugglers, and other street artists a \$600 annual licensing fee. For some reason, it was extended in 1991 to cover public performances of poetry, and was actually enforced last year by a police-induced shutdown of readings at the Cafe La Boheme at 24th and Mission, a block from Ross' home.

Enforcement of the law was subsequently suspended, but Ross testified on behalf of freeing poetry readings at a meeting last month of the city's Economic Vitality and Social Policy Committee. His sentiments were shared by supervisors Angela Alioto and Kevin Shelley.

Shelley has recently issued a countermanding ordinance and a resolution in support of the folks he calls "cafe artists."

"We're sending two messages," Shelley advised the *Voice*. "One, that you shouldn't have to pay out so much money when you're a struggling artist, and two, that the work you're doing is good."

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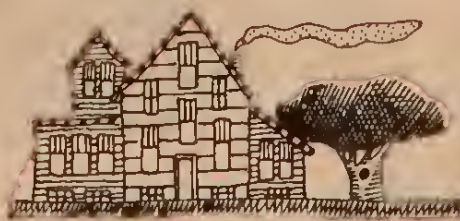
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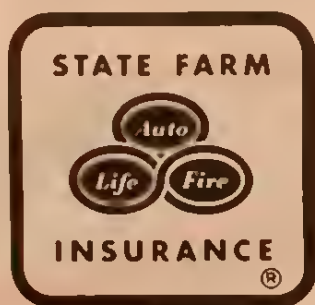
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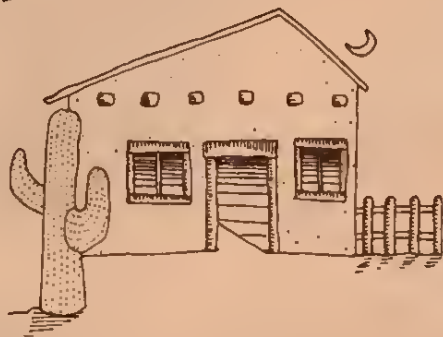
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CRUISE TALK

BY LORI CARSTENS



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May is the month when the cruise lines "reposition" their ships—that is, move them from their winter itineraries in Mexico or the Caribbean to sail north along the Pacific Coast to Vancouver. We will be seeing a few of these cruiseliners as they stop in the Port of San Francisco. So if you're down around the Embarcadero mid-month, be sure to look to see who's in port....those big white ships sure do look beautiful sailing under the Golden Gate!

This year you have the opportunity to cruise under that bridge, too—all the way to Alaska, if you like. There are many itineraries which embark or disembark at the Port of San Francisco, and we would be happy to send you a current calendar of those sailings.

One of the most interesting (and value-packed) itineraries this year is the 10-day round-trip SF/Alaska cruise with departures throughout the summer. No airports!... Any closer and the ship would have to leave from your doorstep!

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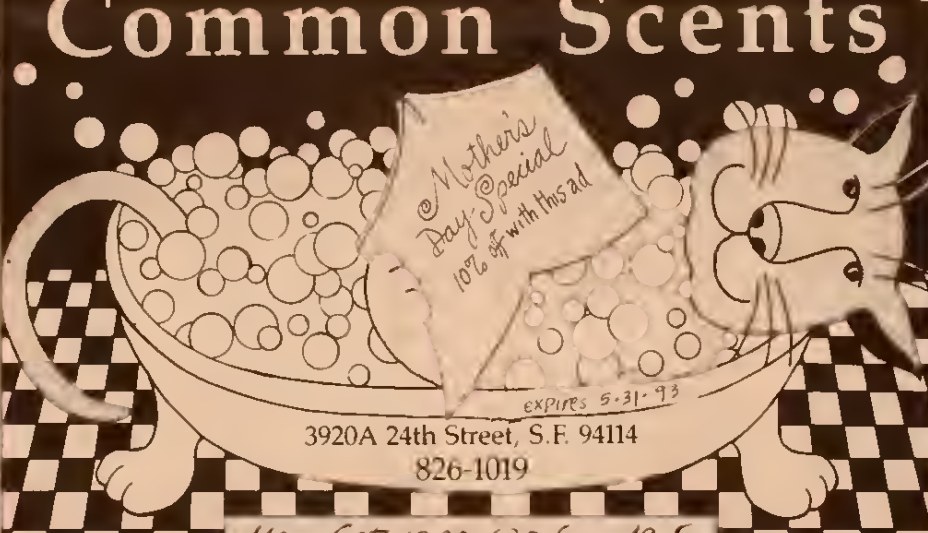


Garden Is Raring to Grow: Students from Susan Gold's seventh-grade class at James Lick Middle School, including (left to right) Upenda Manning, Tony Guzman, Luther Manning, Josh Axelrod, and John Rodriguez, celebrated the reopening of one of the neighborhood's oldest community gardens April 16 by churning up the soil to plant wheat and vegetables in their own school plot. The terraced garden, located behind the Noe Valley Library at 451 Jersey St., was built in 1976 by members of Friends of Noe Valley, but has been closed for two years primarily because of the drought. This spring Joshua Bloom, director of the Farm/City Exchange, a sustainable-agriculture project of the Planet Drum Foundation, planted the seed with Friends and James Lick that now would be a good time to reinvigorate the garden. Bloom says there are plots available for neighborhood groups or residents to tend, but interested green thumbs should give him a call as soon as possible (826-3546). The news has been spreading like kudzu. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP.

IT'S ALL IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD



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Mayday! Mayday!

IS NOE NEWS GOOD NEWS? Earth Day came and went on April 22, without meaningful observance anywhere in the greater Noe Valley, nor in the city and county of San Francisco or the rest of the world, for that matter. The sun was partially shining, and Noe Valleons were going about their business as usual.

Well, on that day I heard an alarming radio report saying the ozone levels above the western United States (and that includes Downtown Noe Valley) were at their lowest since scientists and governmental agencies began measuring these things. The ozone, of course, protects us from the sun's unfriendly ultraviolet rays.

Even though the governments of many industrial nations have signed the "Montreal protocol"—a treaty that would eliminate production of chlorofluorocarbons by the year 2000—it looks like we are too late. And if Earth Day '93 apathy is any indication, the year 2000 deadline will probably go unnoticed, and we will lose our sky within our children's children's lifetime.

I believe we have to stop all CFC production immediately, and start a national campaign to find and bury each and every one of those discarded refrigerators out there. Do I have a second? All in favor say aye.

In the meantime, back in Downtown Noe Valley, even more disturbing news greeted me on my way to Bell Market. From Castro down 24th Street to Bell, I was asked for "spare change" six times, and then unexpectedly twice in the grocery store parking lot. Just another day in the Noe Valley of the '90s, I guess.

☎☎☎

EARTH DAY NIGHT fell on garbage night for me. I dutifully carried out my recyclables to the curb at 11:12 p.m. At 11:13 p.m., an old pickup truck drove up to the curb, a fellow jumped out, sorted through the blue box for the redeemables, and was gone by 11:15.

Later that night I heard several people sifting through the remaining baby food jars and cat food cans in my substantially depleted blue bin. By the time the official recycling truck came roaring up at 7:42 a.m., there was nothing of value left.

These are signs of desperate times, folks. Well, here are a few more signs for you to consider on these partially sunny May days.

☎☎☎

SCHOOL SHAKEUP: The *Voice* will have more on this next month, but on April 20 SFUSD Superintendent Bill Rojas issued an edict to nine public schools, including Noe Valley's James Lick Middle School and Alvarado Elementary.

Rojas said that unless the targeted schools improved their students' academic performance by the end of the '93-94 school year, they would be subject to "reconstitution," which means replacing the entire staff, from principal down to custodian.

I'll go you one better, Bill. Why don't we do three things:

1. Eliminate all SFUSD administrative positions above principal, including yours, thereby freeing up enough money to educate our children.

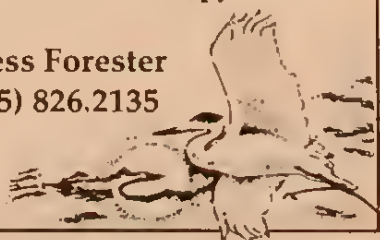
2. Have children attend schools in their

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and now RUMORS behind the news for the BY MAZOOK

own neighborhoods at least 300 days a year, from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

3. Ask parents to devote a half a day per month in service to the school.

☎☎☎

APRIL FOOLISH STORIES don't stop here. We're talking Maydays, right?

Another vicious rumor that began floating around the Noezone last month was that the Noe Valley Library might have its hours cut to zero, if Mayor Jordan's doomsday budget is implemented in July. (See story, page 1.)

Library spokesperson Marcia Schneider says, "In February we proposed a budget with a \$1.5 million reduction. But a month ago, the mayor asked for a 'worst-case scenario,' a further \$3.2 million reduction, and if that occurs, we will have to close all but nine of our 26 branches."

Gloria Hanson, the library's assistant chief of branches, also sees no way around closing branches: "With a \$4.7 million reduction, we would only be able to keep the Main Library and the nine largest branches operating, and we are having problems keeping all the branches open on our current \$20 million budget."

So far, the library is refusing to say exactly which branches would be axed, but we be below nine, folks.

Supervisor Terence Hallinan says he finds "proposals to close library branches outrageous and something I will be actively fighting against" come June, when the Board of Supes holds hearings. Hallinan adds, "We now are seeing the effects of an incompetent mayor who has a meat-ax approach to the city budget."

When I checked with the mayor's office, Bernard Gunther, the mayor's budget analyst for the library, acknowledged that the city's budget shortfall could result in "some" branch closures, but that the mayor's office was trying to avoid closures by "reducing hours for all branches."

A second rumor is that Jordan is just trying to soften us up to accept the first round of proposed cuts, which would pair the Noe Valley Library with the Eureka branch, reduce the hours to a miserable couple of days a week, remove the adult book collection, and convert it to a "children's only" library—what better way to kill off your neighborhood library.

At his barely publicized town hall meetings in March and April, the mayor handed out a questionnaire that asked people to list the city services they considered the most important, and to give "your thoughts on how the city should best approach the current fiscal crisis."

There's still time to make your views

known, says Erica Henri, special assistant to the mayor for neighborhood liaison. "We're inviting phone calls and letters," she says, through the end of May.

Call 554-6120, or write Mayor Frank Jordan, 200 City Hall, San Francisco, CA 94102, and send a copy to the *Voice*, why dontcha?

☎☎☎

ANOTHER THING you can do is join one of Noe Valley's many neighborhood organizations.

The Friends of Noe Valley is currently launching a membership drive that makes an offer hard to refuse. For a \$10 membership fee, you will receive coupons that entitle you to, free, an ice cream cone at Rory's, an ice cream sundae at Double Rainbow, one espresso at Spinelli's and at S.F. Coffee, a falafel sandwich at 3-J's Deli, a bagel of your choice at Holey Bagel, a muffin at Bakers of Paris, a one-day video rental from Video Wave, and a small bottle of lotion from Common Scents.

As a membership bonus, you can also buy one ticket to a concert at the Noe Valley Music Series and get another ticket free. To get your coupons, send \$10 to Friends of Noe Valley, 1178 Dolores St., San Francisco, CA 94110.

Speaking of Friends, their president, Steve Roseman, has just returned from a month-long vacation in South Vietnam. "I had a great time in Saigon, and enjoyed my three-day bike trip up the Mekong," reports Steve. "And next time I want to go to North Vietnam and Cambodia."

☎☎☎

THERE'S NOE BUSINESS like show business. The hot item on 24th Street lips last month was that the block of 24th between Sanchez and Noe (actually from Sanchez to the Bell lot) will be closed for a day, June 14, while a film crew shoots scenes for a six-hour British TV mini-series based on Armistead Maupin's *Tales of the City*, the book about gay and single life in San Francisco in the mid-'70s.

The series will star Olympia Dukakis as Anna Madrigal, the exotic landlady of Barbary Lane. The production will air on Channel 4 in Great Britain, and is directed by Alastair Reid.

According to location manager Ellen Winchell, "We will be filming at around 35 locations in San Francisco in 12 days, so it is quite an ambitious schedule."

Assistant location manager Paul Gerhardt, who spent several days in April contacting merchants on 24th Street, says the filmmakers have concluded that downtown Noe Valley "looks like the Castro

District did in the 1970s. But the Castro District has not maintained its appearance like 24th Street has," notes Paul, "so 24th Street will serve as the backdrop for events that occurred over the hill in Eureka Valley."

As for the rumor that "Sister Act II" will also be filmed in the neighborhood, Robin Eickman, of the city's film commission, has nixed that idea. Even though the sequel may be shot in San Francisco, she says, it will be at another location and not at St. Paul's Church, which provided the set for the 1991 movie.

☎☎☎

SHORT SHRIFTS: The defunct bank building at 4040 24th St. has been sold, but Bank of America's spokesperson on the matter, Jack Houseman, says he will not reveal the buyer "until escrow closes."

Rich Norvelle, a veteran of the Noe Valley Post Office, reports that the branch's entire supply of approximately 75,000 Elvis stamps sold out by mid-April, which represents the biggest demand he's seen around here in the 12 years he's worked in Noe Valley... A dance therapy school and studio is being built on the corner of Sanchez and 25th streets... Just for Fun says it sells three Noe Valley logo tee shirts a day.

Merline's Framing shop is closing, and the building (on the corner of Church and Duncan) has been sold, but the buyers don't want any publicity as yet. Nevertheless, rumors are flying that either a medical office or yet another coffee bean emporium may fill the space.

Merline says, by the way, that she's going into semi-retirement ("I'm 66 years old now") and will spend more time at her home in Milpitas, but she'll still try to find another location in Noe Valley to continue her picture-frame business part-time.

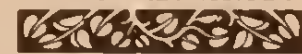
Speaking of the coffee derby, I finally talked to a live person at Starbucks in Seattle, about their pending move into the corner storefront at 24th and Noe, but p.r. manager Lisa McCrummen says the java giant will have "no comment" until lease negotiations are concluded.

☎☎☎

SO MUCH FOR investigative journalism. Please note I'll be visiting the graduating classes at local high schools for the June issue of the *Voice*, so all you students prepare your statements, okay? Ciao for now. □

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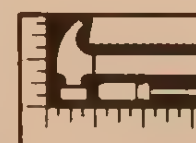
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The Loom and I

The spectacular textile exhibit that opened at the de Young Museum in March has prompted a new batch of memories for me, this time about my own fruit of the loom.

I took up weaving 37 years ago, when I was about that same age, after my man Leo was approached by Ida Dean Grae to design her handbook for weavers, *Dressing the Loom* (now out of print). In exchange for Leo's help, she offered to teach me the fundamentals of weaving.

Both Leo and I were delighted to participate in this stimulating venture, so on one evening per week, I visited Ida's house (on Diamond Street between 28th and 29th) for my lesson. Then I returned home to complete my assignment on the portable loom that she had loaned me.

During the day, I managed my father's store, Mickelson's Paint and Unfinished Furniture, then located at Kingston and Mission streets near 30th. At the shop there were times when business was slow, so I decided to bring my weaving to work, to fill the dull hours with an interesting occupation. I set up the loom in the rear of the store, in a spot where I could weave and watch for customers at the same time.

My first project was a set of eight placemats for the dining table, woven in a plain tabby weave of ecru-colored cotton yarn, with shiny gold strands that matched our gold Dirilyte flatware (reserved for special occasions).

The next assignment was a stole. I chose a combination of blue and green yarn with greenish metallic accents, and it turned out so satisfactorily that I knew right then and there that I would have to have my own loom when the lessons were over.

Luckily for me, the shop in the rear of my father's store held all of the wood and tools necessary to construct a portable loom—so with yardstick, saw, and drill, I proceeded to build an exact copy of Ida's. My contractor father looked in on the project regularly, with a mixture of pride and amusement, until it was finished.

On that day he was there to watch me place the upper working part on top of the collapsible supporting legs. As I slid the back bar into the slot to hold it, a vital piece of wood broke off, plunging the whole contraption to the floor! My father roared with laughter, and so did I when his Swedish sense of humor prompted him to suggest that I put a sign in the store window saying, "Looms by Lomatic!"

But I was able to re-attach the piece with Elmer's Glue. It dried under the pressure of a wood vise, and has held to this day.

FLORENCE'S FAMILY ALBUM

Illustrated Reminiscences by Florence Holub

My first project on my very own loom was to weave a necktie for my husband, made with the leftover yarn from the blue-green stole. I managed to get the warp strands of yarn counted and strung tautly on the loom, and to determine the length by comparing it with one of Leo's ties. Then the actual weaving began, passing the shuttle of yarn back and forth, and watching the strands materialize into a whole cloth.

The tie turned out to be quite beautiful, but when Leo put it on, it dangled a good four inches shorter than a standard tie! My mistake was that I had compared the tie on the loom, when it was all stretched out, to a tie that was in its natural, relaxed state. I should have known that the loom tie, once removed, would contract about 15 percent.



Leo managed to make do, however, by tying my masterpiece so that the front end was long enough to hide the short end underneath. The tie looked great until a gust of wind or a sudden movement exposed its shortcomings. Nevertheless, he wore it with pride until it became frayed and out of style.

For the next 10 years, my loom sat idle as I concentrated on raising my youngest son, Eric, and fixing up our house on 21st Street. But in the '70s, I enrolled, with my neighbor and friend Patricia Hackett, in a YMCA weaving class conducted by a fine weaver, Kay Sekimachi. We began the course by making two samplers, the kind that reveal the unlimited possibilities one has in creating beautiful textiles.

The class was attended by many serious, advanced weavers who willingly shared their expertise. One young girl actually traveled to the Sierra Foothills to purchase fleece from the sheep farmers, which she then spun into yarn. She also agreed to buy wool for me, and gave me a quick lesson in spinning the wool with a hand spindle, a device that looks like a toy top, only slightly larger.

With more confidence than skill, I attempted to spin the gray wool into yarn—grasping a whirling spindle with one hand while twisting the fibers into strings of wool. My jerky, amateurish technique resulted in a ball of slightly lumpy yarn, but I must say that the contact with lanolin-rich wool gave me

the softest pair of hands I'd ever had. And when the lumpy gray was interwoven with store-bought yarn, it added character and texture to the handsome finished product—which naturally was another tie for Leo!

This second effort proved to be long enough, but there was something weird about that tie, too. Unfortunately, Leo had to wear it before we knew what it was.

One evening, when we were attending an artist's reception, the edge of the tie slowly rose and curled up eerily on one side, even though Leo was standing perfectly still and there wasn't a hint of a breeze in the room. Each time this happened—and it happened several times that night—we stared in awe, suspecting that some mysterious power lurked within the hand-spun wool.

Only this year, while reading some of the literature for the de Young textile exhibit, did I learn more about this phenomenon—which is connected to the way yarn is spun, either in the "S" or "Z" direction. According to the literature, the Aymara and Quechua Indians of South America believed that yarn spun in the "S" direction possessed magical powers associated with the wind.

In any case, by alternating S-spun and Z-spun yarns while weaving, curling can be prevented. Of course, only women living in a weaving culture would know this, because every facet of the art is passed down from mother to daughter, generation after generation.

In our modern culture, with the availability of ready-made clothing and other textiles, the importance of cloth has been nearly forgotten. Textiles in ancient times were regarded as sacred and as a paradigm for the creation of life itself—two elements uniting to create a new form.

The de Young installation, "Unraveling Yarns, the Art of Everyday Life," features more than 60 textiles, from the fairly recent African Pygmy ceremonial bark cloth, to the sophisticated loop-stitched Andean turban from South America (created over 2,000 years ago), to the fabulous Caroline and H. McCoy Jones collection of Anatolian kilims, which are the finest carpets and wall hangings found outside of Turkey. The kilims' rich colors and designs tell the story of a culture that we are only beginning to fathom. This story, told mainly by illiterate women, began 20,000 years ago, at a time when animals were just starting to be domesticated, thus providing the wool that was woven into cloth.

Cathryn Cootner, the exhibit's curator, gets to the heart of the matter when she says, "Pick up a piece of cloth and the whole world is attached."

Although the exhibit deals mainly with textiles created for ceremonial use, burial offerings, or as heirlooms, it also includes three pieces by contemporary artists, some of whom inject humor into their artwork.



"The Snore," by Glen Park artist Bruce Conner, is one of three contemporary weavings in the de Young exhibit "Unraveling Yarns, the Art of Everyday Life."

The 1960 assemblage by Glen Park artist Bruce Conner seems puzzling at first glance, but the title, "Snore," tells it all! Made of a mix of brown wood, tan nylon, and black tin cans, the piece immediately brings to mind the sleeping sounds of my late father-in-law after a long, tiring workday—the stretched-out, rattling intake of breath, the rough snorting, a clamorous crescendo that filled the house, and finally, the whistling decline, like boulders racing down a rocky slope—all expressed visually!

According to the curator, this fascinating exhibition will continue for several years, with only minor changes. And at 12:15 p.m. daily, the museum offers a free docent-led tour for the public.

On Fridays, May 7, 14, and 28, and on June 25, the docent conducting the textile tour will be none other than yours truly, the spinner and weaver of this yarn. □

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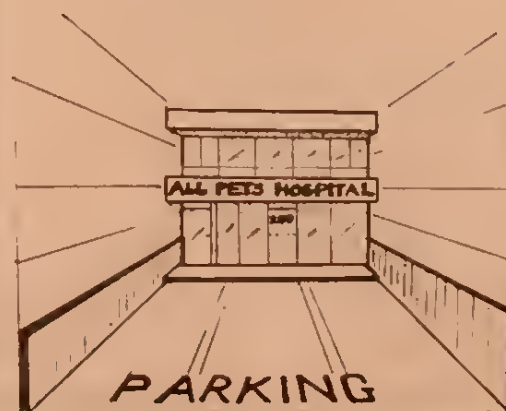
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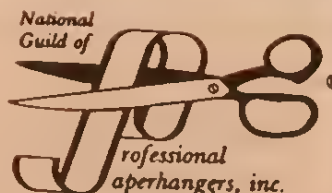
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MORE MOUTHS • to feed •

By Laura McHale Holland

Skyler Prescott Hicks

Tangled perilously in the umbilical cord during his mother's labor, Skyler Prescott Hicks almost underwent an emergency caesarean birth. But luckily, the staff at California Pacific Medical Center untwisted him in time. And 7-pound, 11-ounce Skyler emerged naturally, at 10:15 a.m., on Feb. 11, 1992.

"He looked like he'd been through hell," recalled his mom, Deborah Hicks. "Of course, it's a beautiful sight to a mother."

Skyler is the second child for Deborah, 42, and her husband, Robin Hicks, 46. Their 3-year-old son, Winslow, attends Children's Day School on Dolores Street. In deciding to have another child, Deborah says she reasoned that she'd already "shot off one foot, and might as well shoot off the other, and make myself totally handicapped!"

All kidding aside, however, both she and Robin grew up with siblings, and just couldn't imagine raising an only child.

Winslow's robust, tow-headed little brother (the blond hair comes from his maternal grandfather) is "a wonderfully-natured baby," says Deborah. Second to eating, she says, his favorite activity when he's at home on Caselli Street is "sorting."

"He enjoys taking clothes out of drawers and putting them back in. He'll sort just about anything—blocks, clothes, or dominoes," she explains.

And when the excitement of sorting



Caselli Street residents Deborah and Robin Hicks have their hands full with Winslow, 3, and little brother Skyler, 1. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

has worn off, she adds, Skyler entertains himself by hiding inside the laundry basket.

The Hicks family (which also includes Zanzibar, the dog) moved to Eureka Valley in 1991. But they can still be found frequenting their favorite Noe Valley haunts. Robin, an artist, keeps a post office box in the neighborhood, and Skyler goes to child care near the 25th Street Workout on Castro Street while his mom exercises. The family also belongs to a Noe Valley babysitting co-op, and Deborah and the boys participate in a mother/child walking group in Noe Valley.

Deborah has put her career as a fabric

designer on hold in order to care for her sons. "Devoting these years to just raising my boys is more than a full-time job," she says, "and I feel very fortunate that I am able to experience this."

However, she adds, "It's a good idea to do certain things you need to experience, career-wise or otherwise, before you start up a family."

She and Robin have apparently taken their own advice. They met in 1968 while both were students at U.C. Berkeley.

Only after 19 years of friendship did they marry and start a family, one that now has grown to the perfect number of four.

MORE MOUTHS TO FEED wants to show off *your* newest family member. If you have a new baby in residence or you just adopted a teenager, please send your announcement to the *Noe Valley Voice*, More Mouths to Feed, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Don't forget to include your address and phone number, so we can contact you to arrange for the family portrait. □



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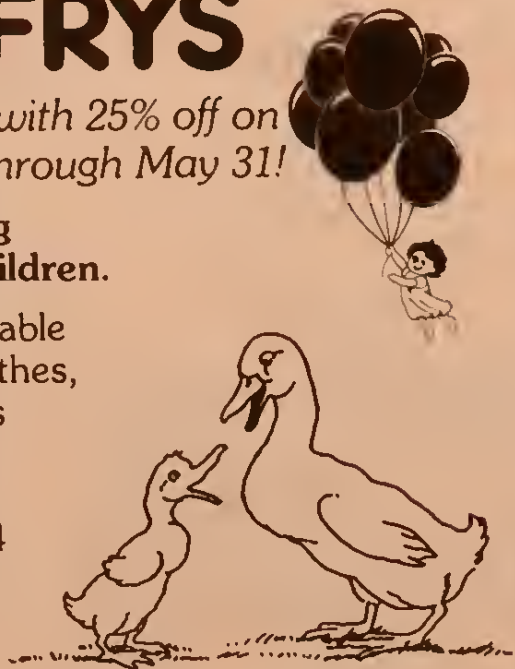
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Adult Fiction

• *Animal House*, by Andrew Klavan, is a climactic thriller in which a woman is convinced she is someone who's just been murdered.

• In Kate Gibbons' *Charms for the Easy Life*, three generations of North Carolina women struggle against adversity.

• *Juggling the Stars*, by Tim Parks, features an English teacher in Italy who schemes to kidnap one of his wealthy students.

• In *A Lesson Before Dying*, by Ernest Gaines, two young black men, one of whom is condemned to death, form a heroic bond.

• A professor of chemistry faces the loss of her job and the breakup of her marriage, in Carol Muske-Dukes' novel *Saving St. Germ.*

Adult Non-Fiction

• *Beating the Street*, by financial wizard Peter Lynch, contains timely advice on stocks and mutual funds.

• *Loitering with Intent*, by Peter O'Toole, covers the actor's childhood in wartime England.

• *Meeting the Madwoman*, by Linda Leonard, author of *The Wounded Woman*, explores the feminine energy forces that, when suppressed, lead to destructive life patterns in both men and women.



Librarians Roberta Greifer and Carol Small offer a selection of new books and literary classics at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. The branch is open Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 6 p.m.; Wednesdays, 1 to 9 p.m.; and Thursday through Saturday, 1 to 6 p.m. (695-5095).

• *Nobody Nowhere* is the autobiography of Donna Williams, the autistic woman who made a big splash on National Public Radio's "Fresh Air" last fall.

• *The People's Car Book* is Sal Fariello's guide to automobile purchase and leasing, as well as maintenance and repair.



Children's Fiction

• *Asleep, Asleep*, by Mirra Ginsburg, is a soothing bedtime book, picturing a variety of animals and then a young baby peacefully sleeping during a beautiful summer evening. (Ages 1-3.)

• If you enjoy field trips, join Arnie and his first-grade class as they tour Brineheart Aquarium in *Are There Any Questions?* by Denys Cazet. (Ages 6-8.)

• When Henry becomes a magician's apprentice in Jane Yolen's *Wizard's Hall*, he does not know that he will get involved in a struggle among wizards for control of his new school. (Ages 8-10.)

• For fictional and illustrated stories about Bigfoot, the Loch Ness Monster, the Yeti, and others, read *Bigfoot and Other Legendary Creatures*, by Paul Robert Walker. (Ages 9 and up.)

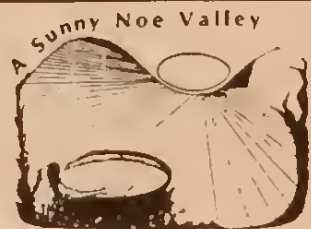
• Isabel, a young Mayan Indian in Guatemala, hopes she will be able to break with tradition by staying in school and becoming a teacher in *Among the Volcanoes*, by Omar S. Castaneda. (Ages 11 and up.)

Children's Non-Fiction

• In *Wild, Wild Wolves*, Joyce Milton provides information on many facets of wolves' lives, such as how they communicate among themselves, how the pack is governed, and what myths and legends about wolves have come about over the years. (Ages 6-8.)

• For football anecdotes about the "highs" and "low points" of the careers of Ronnie Lott, Jerry Rice, and others, read *Good Days, Bad Days: 15 NFL Superstars Describe the Best and Worst Moments of Their Careers*. (Ages 10 and up.)

• *Kids Explore America's Hispanic Heritage*, by the Westridge Young Writers' Workshop, is a collection of writings on many aspects of Hispanic culture—history, food, stories, role models, etc.—by children in grades 3-7. (Ages 8 and up.)



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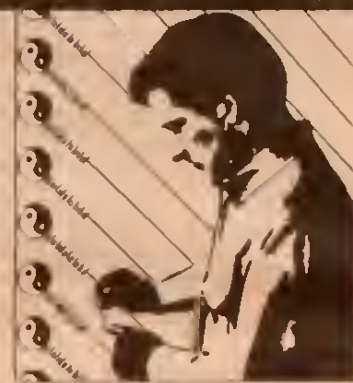
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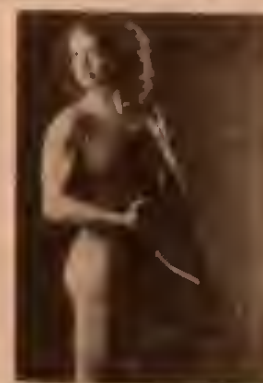


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The rate for classified advertising in the *Noe Valley Voice* is 25¢ a word. Just type or print your copy, multiply the number of words by 25¢ (we trust you), enclose a check or money order for the full amount, and mail it to us by the 15th of the month preceding the month of issue.

Please let us know whether your ad is a renewal from a previous issue. (But be sure to give us the full ad copy, in any case.)

Recession Discount: The *Voice* comes out 10 times a year—we don't publish in January and August. If you decide to place the same class ad in 10 issues (a year's worth), you are entitled to a 10 percent discount. Just deduct 10 percent from the total amount due for 10 issues.

To get your ad in the June 1993 issue, which will be on the streets June 2–30, please mail your ad, and a check payable to the *Noe Valley Voice*, so that we receive it by May 15, 1993. Our address is 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Sorry, but we are unable to accept phone or drop-in orders.

Class advertisers should keep in mind that only the first few words of the ad (not to exceed one line of type) will be highlighted in all caps. Also, receipts and tear sheets will be provided only if your order is accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. □

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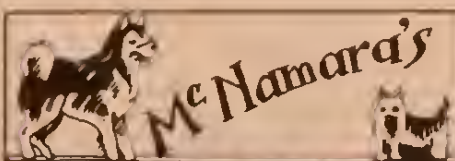
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CALENDAR

MAY 2-30: Miguel Ronquillo celebrates Cinco de Mayo with a series of PHOTOGRAPHS of Mexico in "Salud a Mexico." Reception May 2, 4 pm. Josie's, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

MAY 3 & 10: Natural Resources sponsors a pregnancy and infant loss SUPPORT GROUP. 7-9 pm. 4081 24th St. 550-2611.

MAY 5, 12, 19 & 26: The Noe Valley Library's Wednesday program of infant and toddler LAPSITS continues at 7 pm. 451 Jersey St. 695-5095

MAY 6: Hear readings from the ANTHOLOGY *The Time of Our Lives: Women Write on Sex After 40*. 8 pm. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia St. 821-4676.

MAY 6-8 & 13-15: Footwork Studio hosts three new pieces by the Hermesdorf & Wells DANCE Company. 8:30 pm. 3221 22nd St. 824-5044.

MAY 7: Robert Rich performs cross-cultural and contemplative MUSIC on synthesizers, flutes, drums, and kalimba. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272.

MAY 8: Five blocks of garage sales comprise the annual Fair Oaks STREET FAIR. 9 am-4 pm. 21st to 26 St., between Dolores & Guerrero. 824-2278.

MAY 8: Boldizar KARATE School celebrates the promotion of Carlos Calvo, Sonya Richardson, and Richard Kadrey to brown belt with a public performance by the three students. 10-11 am. 1307 Castro St. 826-6123.

MAY 8: Weishan Liu and Friends perform MUSIC on ancient Chinese string and wind instruments. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272.



A picture of that workhorse, the 11-Hoffman streetcar, shown here trudging up 24th Street to its terminus at Hoffman Avenue, will be on display along with other 1940s memorabilia at Noe Valley History Day May 8. PHOTO COURTESY OF PAUL KANTUS

MAY 8 & 23: The Ina Chalis Opera Ensemble performs Rachmaninoff's short OPERA *Aleko*. May 8, 8 pm; May 23, 3 pm. Community Music Center, 544 Capp St. 647-6015.

MAY 9: Ruth Rus, co-founder of P-FLAG in Grand Rapids, Mich., discusses her coming-out as the mother of a gay son. 2-4 pm. St. Francis Church, 152 Church St. 921-8850.

MAY 9: Community Music Center students, staff, and faculty perform an eclectic selection of MUSIC for Mother's Day. 4 pm. 544 Capp St. 647-6015.

MAY 11: Modern Times Bookstore sponsors a PANEL DISCUSSION on the interplay of race, ethnic, and gender identities in *The Crying Game*. 7:30 pm. 888 Valencia St. 282-9246.

MAY 11 & 25: The Noe Valley Library hosts preschool STORY TIME at 10 am. 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

MAY 13: Judy Stone leads a CRAFT MARKETING workshop for women. 6:30-9:30 pm. Women's Building, 3543 18th St. 431-1180.

MAY 13: The monthly meeting of FRIENDS of Noe Valley features a discussion of water conservation. 7:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 285-8016 or 824-0977.

MAY 14: Over 100 works of ART by students will be on display at Sanchez Elementary School. 10 am-2 pm. 325 Sanchez St. 821-4117.

MAY 14: Acoustic guitarist Duck Baker joins vocalist/autoharpist Molly Andrews in traditional American old-time BLUES AND JAZZ. 8 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 756-6857.

MAY 15: The public is invited to a WORKSHOP on "The Mayan Calendar, Religion, and Ethnic Realities in Guatemala." 10 am-2:30 pm. Horace Mann School, 3351 23rd St. 824-2534.

MAY 15: The Scottish Country Dancers co-sponsor Scottish FIDDLE duo Athena Tergis and Laura Risk. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272.

MAY 15: James Lick Middle School's fundraiser FAMILY PICNIC begins at 10 am. 1220 Noe St. 695-5675.

MAY 15: John Oillon leads a spring bird, blossom, and bug HIKE around Corona Heights. 1 pm. The Randall Museum, 199 Museum Way. 554-9600.

MAY 15 & 16: Mission Cultural Center's Teatro Para Niños presents "Hungry Woll," performed by the Mascaritas PUPPET Theatre. 2 pm. 2868 Mission St. 821-1155.

MAY 16: Soprano Joan Beal joins oboist Debra Henry and pianist Daniel Lockert in a CONCERT of works by Vaughn Williams, Aaron Copland, John Harbison, and J.S. Bach. 2 pm. Noe Valley Chamber Music Series, 1021 Sanchez St. 282-2317.

MAY 16: Hear a TALK by Oena Metzger, author of *Writing for Your Life: A Guide and Companion for the Inner Worlds*. 5:30 pm. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia St. 821-4676.

MAY 18: FILMS for preschoolers, at 10 and 11 am, include "Frog Went A-Courtin'" and "Pelicans"; "Charlie Needs a Cloak" is one of the movies for children 6 and up at 3:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

MAY 19: The Noe Valley Library presents a VIDEO showing and discussion of *Truly, Madly, Deeply*. 6:30 pm. 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

MAY 20: ECOFEMINIST witch Starhawk reads from her first novel, *The Fifth Sacred Thing*. 7:30 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St. 282-9246.

MAY 20: The "In a Oog's Ear" POETRY/MUSIC series continues with "Street-songs," posing the question, "Is Rap Poetry?" 8 pm. Oog Eared Books, 1173 Valencia St. 282-1901.

MAY 20-22 & 27-29: The Bread & Butter Series presents DANCES by Emma Lou Hückabay. 8:30 pm. Footwork, 3221 22nd St. 824-5044.

MAY 21: British GUITARIST Adrian Legg performs at the Noe Valley Music Series. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272.

MAY 22: Psychic Horizons offers a free PSYCHIC HEALING Fair from 2-4 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 346-7906.

MAY 22: The Baroque Art Ensemble's CONCERT SERIES continues with "Music of the French Baroque." 8 pm. St. Paul's Church, 221 Valley St. 663-9650.

MAY 22 & 23: Frameline presents a "48-Hour Lesbian and Gay Drive-In" at the ROXIE Cinema. 3117 16th St. Call 703-8650 for titles and times.

MAY 23: The Noe Valley Ministry sponsors a CELEBRATION of Bay Area gay/lesbian leaders in ministry. 3 pm. 1021 Sanchez St. 282-2317.

MAY 23: WOMEN of all lifestyles are invited to a discussion of sexuality, spirituality, and justice. 7 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 550-7796.

MAY 23: Buena Vista School sponsors a benefit LATIN DANCE party. 8 pm. Cesar's Latin Palace, 3140 Mission St. 285-2003.

MAY 24-28: Davies Medical Center offers TRAINING for AIDS home care companions. 7-10 pm. Castro & Duboce. Call 824-3269 to preregister.

MAY 25: The monthly meeting of RADICAL WOMEN features a celebration of the contributions and struggles of Asian American women. 6:45 pm. 523A Valencia St. 864-1278.

MAY 26: The UPPER NOE Neighbors meeting will include focal crime reports from CPOP officers. 7 pm. Upper Noe Rec Center, Day & Sanchez. 824-1062.

MAY 1993

MAY 8: Noe Valley HISTORY DAY features interviews with oldtimers and an exhibit of memorabilia from the 1940s, the folk music of Bruce Sherman, and storytelling for kids by Carolyn Power (2:15 pm). 2-5 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

MAY 8 & 15: Paula Salemme teaches a DRAMA CLASS for children 2½ to 5. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. Natural Resources, 4081 24th St. 550-2611.

MAY 8-15: Precita Eyes Mural Arts Center sponsors San Francisco MURAL Awareness Week. 348 Precita Ave. Call 285-2287 for a schedule of events.

MAY 8, 15 & 22: Hypnotherapist Nancy Friedrich conducts two WORKSHOPS, one on pain management for pregnant women (May 8 & 15, 10:30 am), and another on stress reduction (May 8, 15 & 22, 1:30 pm). Natural Resources, 4081 24th St. 550-2611.

MAY 8-30: Brava! presents Ellen Gavin's DRAMA *The Roof's on Fire*. Wed.-Sun., 8:30 pm. Teatro Mision, 2868 Mission St. 695-6970.

MAY 9: Dorothy Allison reads from her NDVEL *Bastard Out of Carolina*. 7:30 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St. 282-9246.

MAY 10: Walter Traverso provides the music for the Diamond Senior Center's May birthday party, lunch, and DANCE. Noon-3 pm. 117 Diamond St. 863-3507.



Joan Beal sings selections from the works of J.S. Bach, Vaughn Williams, and Aaron Copland at the Noe Valley Chamber Music Series May 16. PHOTO BY LISA KOHLER.



The Scottish Country Dancers will sponsor a performance by the fiddle duo Athena Tergis (left) and Laura Risk May 15 at the Noe Valley Music Series.

MAY 22: Join the Women and Cancer WALK in Golden Gate Park, to raise money for community-based health organizations. 9 am. Sharon Meadow. Call 487-6224 for pledge sheets.

MAY 22: Maggie Greenwood, R.N., facilitates a labor attendants' SUPPORT GROUP, meeting on the fourth Saturday of the month. 10 am-noon. Natural Resources, 4081 24th St. 550-2611.

MAY 26: THE ANTI MIKE, an open sharing of poetry and stories at Small Press Traffic, features the theme "up in, or any other dealings with smoke." 7:30 pm. 24th & Guerrero. 285-8394.

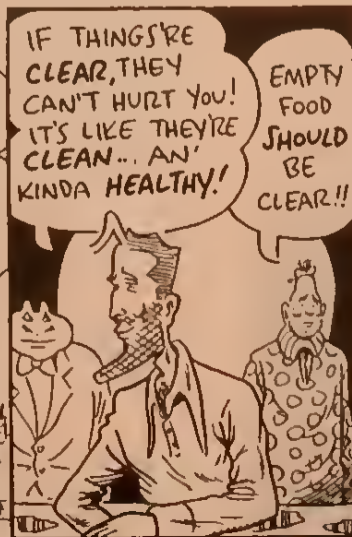
MAY 28-30: Celebrate CARNAVAL weekend with salsa and samba balls, a street festival, and the grand parade (May 30, 11 am-2 pm). On 24th, Mission & Harrison streets. 824-8999.

MAY 28-31: The CLU8 FOOT Orchestra performs its soundtracks to four classic silent films, *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari*, *Nosferatu*, *Metropolis*, and *Sherlock Jr.* Castro Theatre, 429 Castro St. Call 621-6120 for show times.

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The Scoop on CALENDAR

Please send calendar items before the 15th day of the month preceding the month of issue to the *Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Items are published on a space-available basis, with Noe Valley neighborhood events receiving priority. Note: The next issue will appear Wednesday, June 2, and will cover calendar events from June 2 to 30. The editorial deadline is May 15.